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HISTORY

of

WHITESIDE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

From Its Earliest Settlement to 1908

By WILLIAM W. ^{edit} DAVIS, M. A., b. 1836

ILLUSTRATED

With Biographical Sketches of some Prominent Citizens of the County

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MR. TYLER McWHORTER



MRS. TYLER McWHORTER

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BIOGRAPHICAL

HON. TYLER McWHORTER.

Hon. Tyler McWhorter, coming to Whiteside county in pioneer days, was closely associated with its early development and later progress and left the impress of his individuality upon its growth and development. His labors were a beneficial factor in public life, not only in the material interests of the county but in its political progress as well, and he was honored by his fellow townsmen with election to the state legislature, where he represented his district most creditably.

Mr. McWhorter was a native of Ohio, but was reared to manhood in Indiana, to which state he removed in his early boyhood with his parents, John and Mary (Lynn) McWhorter, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of West Virginia. John McWhorter was a descendant of Thomas McWhorter, who came from Scotland before the French and Indian war and took up his abode in New Jersey. His children were Gilbert, Hugh and Mary, the last named becoming the wife of William Buchanan. Hugh McWhorter married Keziah Tyler and they had six children—Thomas, Tyler, Betsey, James, Keziah and John. Of this family Tyler was the father of John McWhorter and the grandfather of our subject. He married and settled in Indiana, where was born unto him a son, John McWhorter. The last named, arriving at years of maturity, wedded Mary Lynn and their children were Lynn, Francis, Henry, Tyler, Keziah and Mary.

Reared to manhood under the parental roof, Tyler McWhorter early became familiar with the experiences of pioneer life in Indiana, as he aided in the development of new land there and its further cultivation as it was transformed into productive fields. He had no special advantages in his youth; in fact, his opportunities were rather limited than otherwise. During his boyhood days he pursued his studies in a log schoolhouse in Indiana and

his father, who was a teacher, assisted him in acquiring a good practical education.

He remained at home until his marriage, which was celebrated November 28, 1849, Miss Rhoda A. Ward becoming his wife. She was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, and is a daughter of Elias and Rhoda (Miller) Ward, who were natives of New Jersey. Her maternal grandfather was Major Luke Miller, who served with distinction in the Colonial army during the Revolutionary war. He spent his entire life in Madison, New Jersey, dying in the house in which he was born. He was a farmer and blacksmith by occupation and lived a life of industry. His family numbered two sons and six daughters. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Rhoda A. McWhorter was Israel Ward, a native of New Jersey, who made farming his life work. In 1811, accompanied by his family, he removed to Hamilton county, Ohio, where he bought land for himself and his sons. He had a family of six sons and two daughters. His son, Elias Ward, the father of Mrs. McWhorter, was a soldier of the war of 1812 and for his services received a land warrant. For a number of years he followed the carriage-trimmer's trade in Cincinnati, but finally selling his farm in Ohio removed to Franklin county, Indiana, where he lived until a few years prior to his death. He then came to Whiteside county, Illinois, to make his home with Mr. and Mrs. McWhorter and some of his other children and here died September 6, 1870. His family numbered twelve children and, with the exception of one who died in infancy, all reached years of maturity, were married and reared families of their own. Only two, however, are now living—Mrs. McWhorter and Lewis B. Ward, who resides in Rock Falls, this county.

Following his marriage Tyler McWhorter continued to reside in Indiana until 1854, when he started for Whiteside county, Illinois. He made the journey by team, bringing with him his household goods, after which he returned for his wife and three little children. This time they traveled by rail to Dixon and thence by team to Sterling. From that time forward until his death Tyler McWhorter was a prominent and influential citizen of this part of the state. The first farm he purchased comprised three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he bought from Jonathan Banes, who had secured it from the government. The purchase price was three dollars per acre. Not a furrow had been turned upon the place and the land was in the condition in which it came from the hand of nature. Mr. McWhorter first erected a small frame house, which is still standing and is yet in possession of the family. He performed the arduous task of developing new land and converting raw prairie into a cultivable farm and in the course of years, as the result of his indefatigable labor, he had one of the finest and best cultivated farms in his township, bringing his land under a high state of development and adding to it many modern improvements and equipments. All these, however, involved much earnest toil and conditions of life in the community afforded no such conveniences and advantages as are now to be obtained. The farm machinery was very crude and much of the labor now done by improved agricultural implements was then done by hand. His neighbors,

too, were widely scattered. Only here and there had a settlement been made and many of the homes were built of logs. As a farmer Mr. McWhorter took a deep interest in all that pertained to the advancement of agricultural and stock-raising interests and, stimulated by his example and words of encouragement, many other farmers turned their attention to the improvement of their land and the advancement of their live-stock interests according to his methods. His labors were thus of direct benefit to his fellowmen. At one time he was the owner of five hundred and twenty acres in Montmorency township, while in Kossuth county, Iowa, he had six hundred and forty acres. He lived upon his farm in this county, however, until his death and was one of the most prominent agriculturists of northern Illinois.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Tyler McWhorter were born four sons and three daughters—Mary, now the wife of John Jamison, of Algona, Iowa; Ellis, who is living near Algona; Anna, the widow of Edgar Woods, of Montmorency township, Whiteside county; John E., of Burt, Iowa; William L., who is represented elsewhere in this volume; Charlotte L., the wife of Fred Buell, of Sheridan, Wyoming; and LeRoy S., who makes his home near Burt, Iowa.

Mr. McWhorter through the period of his residence in this county was recognized as a most public-spirited man and was frequently honored with positions of public trust and responsibility. From 1868 until 1874 he served as supervisor of the town and both prior and subsequent to that period he held other offices. In the fall of 1874 he received the unanimous nomination of the republicans for the position of representative in the twenty-ninth general assembly and such was his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him that he was elected by a large majority. He served on several of the more important committees of the house and gave to the matters which came before the assembly the careful consideration necessary to arrive at a proper conclusion as to their merits. He was an earnest working member of the house and was connected with considerable important constructive legislation. In community affairs he took a helpful part and his influence and aid were always given on the side of reform, progress and advancement, while his many good qualities made him one of the foremost citizens of the county. He was instrumental in securing one of the first schools in Montmorency township and served as school director for fifteen years, the cause of education receiving from him tangible aid. He was a recognized leader in the local ranks of the party and became a leading and active member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His death occurred on the 5th of May, 1889, when he was sixty-four years of age, and his wife, who survives him, has been a resident of Sterling since 1890.

Though nineteen years have come and gone since Tyler McWhorter passed from the scene of earthly activities the influence of his life and labors has not ceased to be felt. His example was well worthy of emulation and the character of his work made him a citizen whom to know was to respect and honor. He lived to witness the transformation wrought in this county and was an active factor in the work of improvement as it was carried for-

ward. His own life was at all times characterized by an orderly progression, and the motives which guided his conduct gained for him an unsullied reputation.

EDWIN WHITFORD MITCHELL.

Edwin Whitford Mitchell is operating his father's farm on section 13, Mount Pleasant township, renting this tract of two hundred and eighty acres of rich and productive land, while his father, Charles Winegar Mitchell, resides in Morrison, having retired from active business life. C. W. Mitchell was born in Cayuga county, New York, December 18, 1843, and is a son of Edward R. and Harriet (Winegar) Mitchell, natives of Madison and Onondaga counties, New York, respectively. Edward R. Mitchell was of English lineage and of Quaker ancestry. He was a blacksmith and, removing to Whiteside county in 1865, settled in Mount Pleasant township, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, upon which he spent his remaining days, dying in 1892, at the age of eighty-three years. His religious faith was that of the Society of Friends and his political support was given to the whig party until he joined the ranks of the new republican party. His wife, who was born in 1810, and died in 1888, came of Swiss ancestry. The first of the family to come to America located in Lee, Massachusetts, early in the seventeenth century. Her parents were Samuel and Tabitha (Crocker) Winegar, the former a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Mitchell was also a relative of Captain Clark, a soldier of the Revolutionary war. In childhood days Mrs. Edward Mitchell was baptized in the Episcopal church but later became a member of the Universalist church. By her marriage she had three children: Amanda, the wife of Charles Ward, a farmer of Niagara county, New York, who came to Illinois in 1863 and settled in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, where he made his home until his death; Charles W., father of our subject; and Lydia, who married Nathan Mitchell, of Elgin, Illinois, who was a railroad engineer but is now deceased. She has since married Theodore G. Knox, now a retired farmer of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Charles W. Mitchell was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools of Syracuse, New York, also spending one term in the Fulton Seminary, at Fulton, New York. He taught school for a year in Oswego county, New York. In the fall of 1864, when twenty years of age, he enlisted at Cicero, New York, in Company D, One Hundred and Eighty-fifth New York Volunteer Infantry, and served until the end of the war, being mustered out near Washington. He participated in the engagements in front of Petersburg during the siege and was also in the battle of Quakers Farm, Gravelly Run and Hatchers Run. He was at Appomattox and the flag of truce from Lee came into the battle line of the One Hundred and Eighty-fifth Regiment. At the time of the surrender Mr. Mitchell had but a single hardtack, which he gave to a Confederate in exchange for a Palmetto button off his coat. It was two days after this before rations were issued to Mr. Mitchell and his

comrades. His division remained at Appomattox and the munitions from Lee's army were placed in their charge. From Appomattox they went to Richmond, thence to Washington, participating in the grand review, the regiment camping at Arlington, the former home of General Robert E. Lee.

In July, 1865, C. W. Mitchell came to Illinois, settling in Mount Pleasant township, where with his father he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, while subsequently he purchased two eighty acre tracts and is now the owner of a valuable farming property of two hundred and eighty acres of finely improved land. Year after year he carried on farming with good success until 1903, when he retired to Morrison and is now occupying one of the attractive homes of that city.

C. W. Mitchell was married in June, 1869, to Lucy Whitford, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, February 6, 1844, a daughter of Philo and Elizabeth (Swift) Whitford, of Scotch-Irish ancestry. Her father was a carpenter and contractor, who removed from De Ruyter, New York, to Ohio at a later day. Unto Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Mitchell were born three children: Mary E., who became the wife of Dr. John F. Stokes, a dentist of Rockford, and died June 25, 1907, leaving three children; Edwin W., of this review; and Anna L., the wife of Rev. William E. Levitt, a minister of the Universalist church in Prince Edwards county, Ontario. The parents are members of the Universalist church and Mr. Mitchell belongs to Alpheus Clarke Post, G. A. R., of which he is a past commander. In politics he is a stalwart republican and has held some local offices. For forty years he has kept a diary and this volume has often been resorted to to settle disputes among the neighbors concerning events of the locality.

Edwin W. Mitchell, whose name introduces this record, was born on the farm he now cultivates, January 29, 1874. It remained his playground in youth and his training school for life's practical and responsible duties. He was afforded liberal educational privileges and after his graduation from the Morrison high school, spent two years in the State University at Urbana. He then returned to the farm and has since devoted his time and energies to the further development and improvement of the fields. He has also for the past year engaged in the breeding of thoroughbred shorthorn cattle and each winter feeds a large number of cattle, for which he finds a ready sale on the market. In his business affairs he displays an aptitude for successful management and his enterprise has brought him gratifying success.

In October, 1902, was celebrated the marriage of Edwin W. Mitchell and Miss Julia Eggleston, who was born in Chicago, June 16, 1881, a daughter of George and Harriet (Howard) Eggleston, whose family numbered three daughters, Mrs. Mitchell being the youngest. Her sisters are: Jerusha, now the wife of Fred Miller, of Sterling; and May, the wife of Clyde C. Kadel, of Rock Falls. Mrs. Mitchell was reared in Sterling and Rock Falls and was graduated from the high school in the latter city. She is a lady of natural culture and refinement and presides with gracious hospitality over her pleasant home. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children: Dorothy Eggleston, born September 18, 1903; and Donald Whitford, July 10, 1906.

In his political views Mr. Mitchell is an earnest republican but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, as he finds that the cultivation of a farm of two hundred and eighty acres makes heavy demands upon his time and energies. He is, however, meeting with success that is well merited. Since the 21st of August, 1899, he has been a member of Dunlap Lodge, No. 321, A. F. & A. M., of Morrison, while both he and his wife are connected with the Eastern Star. As representatives of pioneer families of the county they are well known and Mr. Mitchell is a young, energetic farmer whose business capacity and executive force are well demonstrated in his farming operations.

JOHN M. GALT.

Among those who, while active factors in the world, made a record that time cannot efface, while those who knew him are still connected with the community in which he lived, is numbered John M. Galt. His business interests became an important element in the commercial development of Sterling and the strong traits of his character left their impress for good upon public life.

Born in Strasburg, Pennsylvania, July 31, 1835, he was a son of William and Mary Ann (Thomas) Galt, likewise natives of the Keystone state. In their family were ten children: Mrs. Amanda Crawford, now a widow; Thomas A., a resident of Sterling; John M., deceased; William J., who was a physician and has also passed away; Azariah T., living in Chicago; Mrs. Isabelle McCloy, the deceased wife of Alexander T. McCloy, of Sterling; Zadock, deceased; Mrs. Julia A. Lowrie, who has also been called from this life; Ruth A., the widow of Lott S. Pennington, and one who died in infancy.

John M. Galt became one of the early settlers of Sterling. His boyhood and youth were passed in Pennsylvania, where he acquired his education, and when a young man he made his way westward to Whiteside county, Illinois, and engaged first in the hardware business in Sterling. Later he turned his attention to the manufacture of buggies, in which he successfully continued for many years. Watchful of opportunity, he constantly extended the sphere of his activities and with his brother, T. A. Galt, established a bank, known as Galt Brothers Bank. This became a strong financial enterprise of the county and after a connection therewith of some length, John M. Galt sold his interest to George S. Tracy. He then became a stockholder in the Eureka Manufacturing Company, established for the manufacture of mill machinery and school furniture, and in addition thereto became an extensive dealer in real estate. At a later date he disposed of his manufacturing interests and concentrated his entire time and attention upon his property investments, which included both city and country property. He was a man of keen business discernment and sound judgment, recognizing opportunities which others pass by heedlessly and so directing his energies that desired results were accomplished. Thus year by year he advanced in the business



John W. Gaer

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world and while manufacturing, individual prosperity also contributed to the general welfare.

On the 22d of January, 1868, John M. Galt was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth McPherran, a daughter of Andrew and Maria (Brubaker) McPherran, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. Her father was the first mayor of Dixon, Illinois, and from that city removed to Chicago, where his remaining days were passed. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Galt were born six children: Bessie R., now the wife of Edward J. Bowman, of Anaconda, Montana; Kathryn M., who is living in Sterling with her mother; William T. and John M., both of this city; Julia, the wife of Dr. Charles G. Beard, of Sterling; and Elizabeth Irma, the wife of Edgar W. Akin, of Carlisle, Indiana.

In religious faith Mr. Galt was a Presbyterian and Mrs. Galt belongs to the same church. He died November 26, 1889, at the age of fifty-four years. It seemed to those who knew him that he should have been spared for many more years of usefulness. He left behind him an untarnished record as a business man, while his example should serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to those who, without aid, wealth or influence at the outset of their careers, must depend upon their own resources to win success. Mr. Galt possessed strong purpose and laudable ambition and with a recognition of the fact that in America labor is king he put forth indefatigable effort to win the success which he knew would crown all intelligently directed labor. He was, moreover, respected for the many sterling traits which he displayed aside from those manifest in his business life and his name came to be honored in the city of his residence.)

JACOB J. LUDENS.

Jacob J. Ludens, popular as one of the younger attorneys practicing at the Whiteside county bar, makes his home in Sterling. He was born at Garden Plain, this county, on the 13th of October, 1877, and is of Holland lineage, his parents, John P. and Dorothy (Vandenberg) Ludens, being natives of the land of the dykes. The father came to America in 1866, settling at Fulton, this county, where he purchased a tract of land and engaged in farming. There he reared his family and continued as one of the enterprising and representative agriculturists of the community up to the time of his death, which occurred May 7, 1893, when he was fifty-five years of age. Mrs. Dorothy Ludens was a daughter of Jacob Vandenberg, who was a butcher of Holland. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Jennie Vandenberg, died in middle life. Mrs. Ludens still survives her husband and now lives with her youngest daughter in Chicago. She holds membership in the Holland Reformed church, in which John P. Ludens was a deacon for many years. He served as school director and was a most loyal and devoted citizen of his adopted country.

His family numbered eight children: Jennie, the deceased wife of J. B. Sterengberg; Annie, the wife of David B. Sterengberg, of Ustick township;

Peter M., who is living in Montana; Elizabeth, the wife of Fred M. Dykema, of Virden, Illinois; Harry J., who is engaged in the practice of law at Morrison, this state; Jacob J., of this review; John, who is a student in Knox College at Galesburg, Illinois; David, a civil engineer for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company; and Mattie, the wife of William Parr, of Chicago.

Jacob J. Ludens was reared to farm life in this county, attending the district schools in his early boyhood and afterward becoming a student in the Northern Illinois College at Fulton, where he pursued a law course. He was admitted to the bar in 1900 and for two years thereafter engaged in teaching school. He then took up the active work of the profession, opening a law office at Erie, while two years later he removed to Sterling, where since July, 1904, he has continuously practiced. In the four years of his residence here he has won a creditable name for himself as a lawyer of ability and learning who prepares his cases with great care and precision and presents his cause in clear and logical manner.

On the 9th of January, 1907, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Ludens and Miss Ermyn I. Smith, a daughter of Dr. A. C. and Rachel Smith, her father being one of the oldest practicing physicians of Sterling. Mr. Ludens belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; to Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F.; and Corinthia Lodge, No. 63, K. P. His wife is a member of the Baptist church. They are interested in all that pertains to the welfare and progress of the community. Mr. Ludens is a republican in politics and an active worker in the party, serving now as a member of the county central committee. The alert, enterprising spirit of the middle west is manifest in all that he does and the place that he has already won for himself in professional circles argues well for a successful future. He is popular as a citizen and as an attorney, and he and his wife move in the best social circles of the city.

ELMER ELLSWORTH MENSCH.

Elmer Ellsworth Mensch, one of the representative and successful farmers of Jordan township, owes his advancement in the business world entirely to his own well directed efforts, his close application and honorable business dealings. He was born October 19, 1862, in Montour county, Pennsylvania, the family home being near Danville. His parents, Andrew and Elizabeth (Miller) Mensch, were also natives of the Keystone state, but they died when their son was quite young and he has no definite knowledge of his grandparents save that they, too, were natives of Pennsylvania and lived to an advanced age, the grandfather, Jacob Mensch, being more than eighty years of age at the time of his demise.

Elmer Ellsworth Mensch was one of three children, of whom two are now living, his sister being Mrs. Isabelle Osman, a widow residing in Colorado. At the time of the Civil war Andrew Mensch joined the army as a soldier and gave his life for the cause of the Union. He enlisted soon after

the outbreak of hostilities and remained continuously at the front until the battle of Petersburg, when he was killed in the engagement. He was a gallant soldier, always loyal to the old flag and ever brave in support of the cause which he espoused. Following his demise his widow became the wife of John Longenberger and to them were born four children, two of whom are yet living.

Elmer E. Mensch was but two and a half years old when his father died. He was then placed in the care of his cousin, Jesse Mensch, with whom he remained until he was eleven years of age. During the last two years of that time the cousin lived in town and his daughter, having married A. D. Keefer, settled upon the farm which her father had formerly occupied and Mr. Mensch, then a boy of nine years, went to live on the farm. He continued with Mr. and Mrs. Keefer until the winter of 1880, when he came to Whiteside county, settling first in Jordan township. For the first few years after his arrival here he was employed as a farm hand and thus provided for his support and laid the foundation for his present prosperity.

On the 8th of October, 1885, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Mensch and Miss Maggie Wilger, a daughter of Joseph and Marie (Grubb) Wilger, who were natives of Germany and came to Pennsylvania in early life. After spending a few years there they removed westward to Whiteside county and took up their abode in Jordan township. Mr. Wilger died December 10, 1867, when about sixty-one years of age. The mother survives at the age of seventy-six years and is a remarkably well preserved woman.

Following their marriage Mr. Mensch rented a farm of eighty acres in Palmyra township, but that did not prove a profitable venture and a year later he removed to the A. C. John place, where he cultivated one hundred and thirty acres of land, residing thereon for four years. He next located on the John Kratz place, of two hundred and eight acres, where he made his home for nine years, and on the 1st of March, 1898, he bought the present place of seventy-six acres. It had very few improvements upon it at that time but is now a beautiful farm property, in the midst of which stands a pretty home, while in the rear are fine barns and outbuildings and everything about the place is in excellent condition—made so by the efforts of Mr. Mensch. His life has been characterized by unfaltering industry guided by sound judgment. He early came to realize the value of untiring labor and as the years have gone by he has achieved the measure of success which ever crowns earnest, persistent labor.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mensch have been born two children: Omer E., who is now nineteen years of age and is attending business college at Sterling in preparation for a commercial career; and Marie, a bright and interesting little daughter of four years. The parents are well known in the community and have an extensive circle of friends.

Mr. Mensch has always been deeply interested in politics and in public matters relating to the welfare and upbuilding of the county. He votes with the republican party and in 1896-7 filled the office of collector. He has served for many years on the school board, was assessor for seven years and in the spring of 1906 was elected supervisor of his county. The offices that

he has filled have found in him a faithful incumbent, ever loyal to the interests of the public and promoting general progress by practical, enterprising methods. In 1906 he was one of the federal grand jury summoned for the celebrated Standard Oil cases.

Mr. Mensch is a charter member of Penrose Camp, No. 2203, M. W. A., in which organization he held the office of clerk for nine years. Two years later he filled the office of councilor and was elected to represent the local lodge in the county organization and then elected to the state convention. He commenced life a poor boy and his record shows what can be accomplished when one has the will to dare and to do. He is now pleasantly situated in life and, moreover, he enjoys the esteem and confidence of his fellowmen by reason of the straightforward, honorable methods that he has followed in his business career, in public office and in fact in every relation of life.

HENRY BRÉSSLER.

Henry Bressler, who for more than a half century was a resident of Whiteside county, was closely associated with its agricultural development and at all times upheld its political and legal status. He stood for high standards in citizenship and in private life as well and the energy and diligence which he displayed enabled him to rise from a comparatively humble position in the business world to one of prominence and affluence.

He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, May 3, 1826, his parents being Isaac and Frances (Neff) Bressler, also natives of the Keystone state. The former was a son of Peter Bressler, who came from Bressler, Germany, with his parents in his boyhood days, the family home being established in Pennsylvania. During his active business life he followed blacksmithing and farming. The maternal grandfather, Henry Neff, also a farmer by occupation, died in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Their daughter, Frances, one of a large family, gave her hand in marriage to Isaac Bressler, son of Peter and Elizabeth Bressler.

After following farming for some time in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, Isaac Bressler removed westward to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1856 and settled on a tract of land in Jordan township, where he made his home until called to his final rest when about seventy-eight years of age. His wife survived him and was more than ninety-two years of age at the time of her death. Both were members of the Mennonite church and were people of the highest respectability. Their family numbered twelve children, eleven of whom reached adult age, while seven are now living: Eliza, the widow of Henry Bush, of Sterling; Annie, the widow of Jacob Meyers, who makes her home in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania; Catharine, who is the widow of John Stauffer and resides in Roseland, Nebraska; Peter, of Spokane, Washington; Isaac, living in Sterling; Benjamin, also of Sterling; Mary, the widow of Weidler Greybill, who likewise resides in Roseland, Nebraska. Those who have passed away are: Levi; Lydia, the wife of John Buckwalter;

Fannie, the wife of William Echternach; Henry; and Susan, who departed this life when two years of age.

The personal history of Henry Bressler is the record of a man who in all life's relations was found trustworthy, whose ideals were high and who ever made earnest effort to live up to the standard which he set before him. He was reared in the east, remaining upon a farm in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, during the period of his boyhood and youth, while the public schools of that locality afforded him his educational advantages. He was a young man of about twenty-five years when he first sought the opportunities of the west, thinking to improve his financial condition by a removal to this less thickly settled but more rapidly developing region. Accordingly he arrived in Whiteside county in 1851, accompanied by his wife, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Jordan township at the usual government price.

On the 21st of December, 1848, Mr. Bressler had married Miss Margaret Stauffer, who was born in Pennsylvania, April 8, 1830, a daughter of John and Barbara (Eby) Stauffer. Her parents were also natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Her paternal grandparents were Christian and Fannie Stauffer. The former was born in the Keystone state, of German descent, and was a miller by trade. He owned a large farm, which he cultivated for many years and at the age of seventy-seven he passed to his final rest, while his wife was sixty-five years of age at the time of her demise. Their family numbered seven children, who reached years of maturity: John, Maria, Benjamin, Annie, Betsey, Jacob and Barbara. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Bressler was Peter Eby, a native of Pennsylvania, who followed the occupation of farming and was also a Mennonite preacher. He wedded Margaret Hess and both lived to an advanced age, rearing a large family, which included Peter, Christ, John, Henry, Ann Susan, Barbara, Elizabeth, Annie and Maria. The children of Mr. and Mrs. John Stauffer were eight in number: Benjamin, Fannie, Peter, Christ, John, Margaret, Annie and Barbara, and the only one now living is Mrs. Bressler.

Following the removal of Mr. and Mrs. Bressler to Whiteside county he concentrated his time and energies upon his business interests in connection with the development and improvement of his farm and as the years passed by he extended its boundaries by the purchase of an additional sixty acres. Upon that place he resided for thirty-two years, bringing it under a high state of cultivation. In 1885 they removed to Sterling, where Mr. Bressler spent his remaining days in honorable retirement from labor.

They reared a family of nine children, who are a credit and honor to their name. Elizabeth, the eldest, is the wife of Martin Overholser, a resident of California, and they have four children: Ida, the wife of Walter McCaskill; May, the wife of Lewis Seibert; Grace, the wife of George Clements; and Lola, the wife of Walter Osterhoudt. Isaac Bressler, the second of the family, operating the old home farm in Jordan township, married Delora Brewer and they have three children, Fred, George and Carrie, the last named the wife of Frank Weatherwax. John Bressler, a farmer residing west of Sterling, married Ora Brewer and they have one son, Harry. Henry

Bressler is living at home with his mother. Marcus, who follows farming in the state of Washington, married Leah Rutt and they have three children: Lura, the wife of Roy Kellogg; Floyd; and Margaret. Ida became the wife of Stephen Stiles and died leaving two children, Walter and Robert. Frank, a practicing physician of Chicago, married Maude Sheppard and they have a daughter, Helen. Adelia is the wife of Lorenzo Osterhoudt, a farmer residing east of Sterling, and they have two sons, Walter and Henry. Irving, the youngest of the family, died in infancy.

The father of this family died on Christmas day of 1905 and thus passed away one of the prominent and honored pioneer settlers. He held various township offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness, capability and fidelity. He did not seek to figure prominently in public life, however, as he found in his active business career that his farming interests claimed the greater part of his time and attention. He worked diligently year by year to attain success and eventually became possessed of a valuable property that enabled him in his later years to live retired and to leave his family in comfortable financial circumstances. He was devoted to the welfare and happiness of her who traveled life's journey by his side for many years as a devoted and loving wife. His many good traits of character gained him the respect of his fellowmen and his death was the occasion of wide-spread regret to all who knew him.

AMOS W. HARDY.

Amos W. Hardy has been a life-long resident of Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county. His natal day was June 27, 1854, and from early boyhood to the present time he has been identified with agricultural interests here. His father, William Hardy, who carries on general farming on section 13, Ustick township, has made his home in the county since 1853 and was a resident of Mount Pleasant township until 1877, when he removed to Morrison. In 1879 he became a landholder of Ustick township by his purchase of one hundred and sixty-two acres, which he still owns. He has since added about sixty acres by a later purchase and almost the entire tract is now under a high state of cultivation, comprising one of the rich farming properties of Whiteside county. Mr. Hardy was a young man of twenty-one years when he arrived here, his birth having occurred in Lincolnshire, England, January 27, 1832. His parents were Isaac and Sarah Hardy, both of whom died in England. William Hardy is their fifth child and has seven brothers and sisters. He was reared to farm life and remained a resident of his native land until 1852, when he came to the United States, spending a year in New York city, whence he removed to Whiteside county in 1853. He has been a stalwart republican since becoming a naturalized American citizen and has served as school trustee but has never been active as an office seeker. In early manhood he married Keziah Richardson, at Unionville, Illinois, and to them were born seven children: Amos W., Richardson I., Wingfield J., Horace G.,

Olive, Alice J., and Ruby K. Mrs. William Hardy had been previously married, her first husband being Thomas Hardy, who died in Mount Pleasant township. Her death occurred in August, 1869, and William Hardy afterward wedded Alicia Richardson, the widow of William Kennen, who passed away in Mount Pleasant township. The death of Mrs. Alicia Hardy occurred April 2, 1885, in Ustick township.

Amos W. Hardy, whose name introduces this record, was reared to the occupation of farming and in his youth acquired a good English education in the public schools. He was married on the 27th of November, 1878, to Miss Harriet Bowen, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Bowen. Her father was born September 8, 1805, and came to Illinois in 1853. Here his death occurred November 16, 1876. His wife, who was born May 1, 1817, died February 8, 1889. They were the parents of five children: Randall, who is married and lives in Lyndon; William, of Denison, Iowa, who is married and has five children; Mrs. Myra Loucks, of Traverse City, Michigan, who has one daughter; Mrs. Helen Tuller, who died leaving a daughter, who is now a resident of Lyndon; and Mrs. Hardy. Mr. and Mrs. Bowen were earnest, consistent Christian people and held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hardy has been blessed with four children: Ralph W., born September 1, 1879, resides at home and follows the machinist's trade. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen. R. Alice, born October 24, 1881, is now teaching in Mount Pleasant township and she belongs to the Royal Neighbors. Sylvia K., born November 20, 1883, is at home. Ross L., born December 20, 1886, is an engineer. All the children yet remain under the parental roof.

The family home is a fine farm of one hundred and ten acres situated in Mount Pleasant township. It belongs to his father, but A. W. Hardy has entire management of the place and in the cultivation of the fields is meeting with good success. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp and his wife is a member of the Royal Neighbors and also of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Hardy gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has served in several of the township offices, wherein he has discharged his duties with a promptness and fidelity that have won him high encomiums. lems that continually confront the physician.

J. M. WINKEY.

J. M. Winkey is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and fifteen acres situated on section 7, Genesee township, and its neat and thrifty appearance indicates his progressive spirit and unwearied industry. It was in this township that his birth occurred July 13, 1871. His parents, William and Pauline (Larke) Winkey, were both natives of Germany and in 1867 came to America, at which time they established their home in Carroll county, Illinois. After a year there passed, however, they removed to Genesee township, Whiteside county, where Mr. Winkey purchased a tract of land and carried on general farming. He was thus engaged until his life's labors were ended

in death in 1874. His widow still survives and is yet residing upon the old homestead in this county. Their family numbered seven children: William, of this county; Gustavé, who resides in Carroll county, Illinois; Emma, the wife of Christ Schultz, of Whiteside county; J. M., of this review; Lena, the wife of Herman Heide, of Carroll county, Illinois; and two who have passed away.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for J. M. Winkey in his boyhood and youth. He remained at home until twenty-seven years of age. He was only eighteen months old at the time of his father's death but he continued with his mother and as his age and strength increased aided more and more largely in the work of the fields. He was a student in the public schools but through the months of summer worked on the farm until he reached the age of twenty-seven, when he rented land and thus started out in life on his own account. For six years he thus engaged in farming, after which he purchased one hundred and fifteen acres of land on section 7, Genesee township, where he now resides. Here he carries on general agricultural pursuits and has a well developed property, his careful conduct of its interests bringing to him a goodly return in large crops, for which he finds a ready sale on the market.

In 1897 Mr. Winkey was married to Miss Ottilie Appold, who was born in Germany, July 9, 1878. Her father died in that country and the daughter afterward came to America with her mother in 1891. She was an only child but by her marriage has become the mother of four children: Walter H., Irma O., Marie T. and Bertha E. The parents are both members of the German Lutheran church and as such are highly esteemed because of their fidelity to their principles. Mr. Winkey votes with the republican party and is loyal to its interests but has no desire for public office, as he prefers to give undivided attention to his business.

EDWARD A. SMITH.

Edward A. Smith, well known in the business circles of Morrison as president of the First National Bank, was born in Fulton, Illinois, June 27, 1865, and was a student in the schools of this city in his boyhood days and afterward attended Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, for a short time. He put aside his text-books in order to assist his father in the bank, a brother having died in 1887, so that there was a vacancy left in the clerical force of the institution. At intervals from 1884 he had assisted in the bank, so that the business was not entirely unfamiliar to him. The institution is known under the firm style of the Leander Smith & Son Bank, Edward A. Smith having been admitted to a partnership on the retirement of Duncan Mackay. Since the death of his father he has been at the head of the bank and in its conduct is associated with a younger brother, Harry W., who came into the bank as an equal partner, but the name of Leander Smith & Son has been retained. They do a general banking and also a mortgage loan business on



E. J. Smith

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real estate. Edward A. Smith is also president of the First National Bank at Morrison and of the Illinois Refrigerator Company. He is likewise interested in lands in Union Grove, Mount Pleasant, Newton and Ustick townships, in Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas and Iowa, and likewise in real estate in Morrison.

In 1889 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Ellen M. Sprague, who was born in Monmouth, Illinois, in 1867, a daughter of Henry T. and Caroline Sprague. Her father following farming in Warren county, Illinois, for a short time and then returned to New York. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have five children: Eleanor A., who is attending the Emma Willard School for Girls at Troy, New York; Marion L. and Frank L., who are students in the high school at Morrison; Dorothy C., also in school; and Edward A., who completes the family.

Mr. Smith is a Mason and also belongs to the State Bankers' Association. In politics he is an earnest republican and is interested in community affairs. For more than a half century the Smith family, of which Edward A. Smith is a representative, has figured in connection with the history, the development and the upbuilding of this part of the state and Mr. Smith is a worthy scion of his race, carefully conducting the business interests which were established by his father and extending the scope of his activity through personal investment and enterprise.

EDWIN MALTVA COE.

Among the representatives of farming interests in Hopkins township who by consecutive and well directed efforts have gained prominence and success, is numbered Edwin Maltva Coe, who owns and cultivates an excellent farm on section 33, Hopkins township. He was born January 5, 1858, in Jordan township, Whiteside county, Illinois, a son of Mortimer Strong and Rachel (Penrose) Coe, who were natives of New York and Ohio respectively. The father was one of Whiteside county's prominent old settlers. His parents were Simeon M. and Mary (Miles) Coe, pioneers of Whiteside county. Simeon Maltva Coe, the grandfather of our subject, was born March 12, 1810, in Paris township, Oneida county, New York, and was a son of Simeon Maltva Coe, Sr., whose birth occurred in Litchfield, Connecticut, October 29, 1784. His immediate ancestors were descended from one of several brothers who came from England. Throughout succeeding generations the representatives of the family followed the occupation of farming and all have sustained the prestige of an honored name. Simeon Coe and Joshua Miles, the paternal and maternal grandfathers of Mortimer S. Coe, were both soldiers of the Revolutionary war and the latter became a captain in the army under General Putnam. As the family has grown and scattered, different branches have located in New England, New York and Ohio.

Simeon M. Coe, the grandfather of Edwin M. Coe, was descended from the New England branch of the family and was married, September 1, 1807,

to Mary Miles, a native of Connecticut. After their marriage they removed to Oneida county, New York, locating near the site of the city of Utica, although the town had not then been founded. They were pioneers of that locality and Mr. Coe cleared and otherwise improved two farms in that district. The maternal grandfather of Edwin M. Coe was Edwin Penrose, who was of English descent and of Canadian parentage. He was born in Pennsylvania but in early life became a resident of Ohio and was married in that state.

The father, Mortimer S. Coe, was born in Rush, Monroe county, New York, September 21, 1832, and was but a child when the removal of the family to Illinois made him a resident of Whiteside county. He was but a lad when his father died and he remained the companion and helper of his mother and sister until he had almost attained his majority. He started out in life on his own account as a day laborer and from a humble position in the business world steadily worked his way upward to affluence and prominence. He was married March 28, 1855, to Miss Rachel Penrose, a daughter of Edwin and Mary (Spencer) Penrose. They immediately afterward located upon a farm in Jordan township and he brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, residing there until about 1869. He then sold that property and subsequently purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Hume township, five miles west of Rock Falls. He made this one of the best improved and most valuable farms in the township, erecting a beautiful home in the midst of attractive surroundings. The farm presented a well kept appearance, indicating the careful supervision of the owner, neatness and thrift characterizing every department of the farm. He raised stock of the highest grades and annually gathered rich harvests. Upon the farm he remained until 1893, when he retired from active work and removed to Rock Falls, spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coe were born two children: Edwin M., of this review; and Albert L., who is living in Rock Falls. The father had eight brothers and three sisters, namely: Mrs. Lucy M. Stull, Simeon M., George A., Frederick M., Henry A., Albert S., Jonathan F., Decius O., Adeline E., Marcus L., and Mrs. Helen A. Stevens. The last named is the only surviving members of this large family of children and now lives in Sterling. Mortimer S. Coe was a good man and true. He was quiet and unassuming in manner but the sterling traits of his character were widely recognized and he was beloved by all who knew him. In his family he was a kind and indulgent father and a loving and helpful husband and in the community was known as a loyal neighbor and friend. He belonged to the Rock Falls Methodist church and was a consistent Christian gentleman and a man of great moral strength. He stood as an uncompromising republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party and proving especially staunch in his support of the party during the early days when it stood for the suppression of slavery in the north.

Edwin M. Coe was educated in the common schools and assisted in the work of the home farm until about twenty-five years of age. He thus early gained intimate knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil and caring

for the crops. He was married December 22, 1881, to Miss Adelia Mangan, a daughter of Richard L. and Naomi J. (Thoman) Mangan. Her father was born July 13, 1821, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in which city his early youth was passed. He was married September 16, 1843, to Miss Naomi J. Thoman and to provide for his family followed the stone-mason's trade. About 1854, however, he left the east and removed to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming to some extent and at the same time worked at his trade. For thirty-two years he made his home in Sterling, where his death occurred on May 16, 1887. In August, 1862, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company D, Seventy-fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. He was with that command in all of its engagements until he was wounded on the 29th of July, 1862. He was made corporal on the 8th of April, 1863; first sergeant on the 17th of April, 1863; and was afterward promoted to the second lieutenantcy, which rank he held at the time of his discharge. He was wounded before Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia, in June, 1864, by a musket ball, which struck the upper part of his foot. He was carried to the rear and his foot amputated but gangrene set in and a second amputation was necessary. As this did not check the gangrene a third amputation followed, until the leg was off almost to the knee. He arrived home in September, 1864, and although he afterward went to Philadelphia and got a regular patent government leg and foot, he always suffered from his injury, many times being in severe pain. He was a good citizen and brave soldier and proved his loyalty to the country in days of peace as he did in days of war. He rendered capable service to his fellow townsmen as a member of the city council, also as justice of the peace, and again as city treasurer. For many years he served as justice of the peace and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial. Mrs. Coe is one of a family of eleven children, namely: Mrs. Mary L. King, a widow, residing in Chicago; Samuel Thoman, who is living in Sterling; William F., also a resident of Sterling; Mrs. Emily Hoyt, a resident of Pennsylvania; George K., deceased; Mrs. Caroline Stevens; Richard L., and Cyrus, all residents of Sterling; Mrs. Coe; Irwin J., living in Harris, Iowa; and Mrs. Clara Shaw, of Chicago.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coe have been born three children: Albert Irwin, who is attending college in Mount Vernon, Iowa; Lauren Mortimer, who is also attending college in Mount Vernon, Iowa; and Carroll Decius, who is now completing the high school course.

The home farm of the family comprises one hundred and ninety acres of rich and productive land. It is carefully and systematically cultivated in the production of corn, wheat and other cereals. It is pleasantly located, about seven and a half miles from Sterling and about the same distance from Morrison and in his farm work Mr. Coe displays keen judgment and sagacity. In all of his business dealings he is thoroughly reliable as well as enterprising and his labors have thus resulted in winning creditable success. In community affairs he is progressive and takes an interest in all that pertains to the welfare and advancement of his native county. He has been assessor of Hopkins township for three years, school trustee for

about fifteen years and also town clerk. He and his family are members of the Fourth Street Methodist Episcopal church, of Sterling, and he has served as superintendent of the Ben Sunday school for ten or more years. He belongs to Sterling Lodge, M. W. A., and is loyal to the teachings of the order and of the church, his life being actuated by high and honorable principles, whereby he commands the warm regard of all with whom he is associated.

HENRY BRUBAKER.

Henry Brubaker, an enterprising and successful agriculturist and stock-raiser of Garden Plain township, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, September 28, 1834, his parents being Henry and Susan (Brubaker) Brubaker, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject emigrated from Germany to the United States and served with the American army in the war for independence. The grandfather, Abram Brubaker, reared a family of two sons and two daughters, of whom Henry Brubaker, the father of our subject, took up his abode in Lancaster county and later went to Franklin county, Pennsylvania. The latter passed away in the year 1863 and his wife was seventy-five years of age at the time of her demise. Their family numbered eleven children, as follows: Samuel, deceased, whose family resides in Franklin county, Pennsylvania; Daniel, who has also departed this life; Fannie, the widow of David Keller, who likewise makes her home in Franklin county; Carrie and Elizabeth, twins, both now deceased, the former having been the wife of John Brakefield and the latter the wife of John Sell, of Franklin county, Pennsylvania; Abram, who resides in Whiteside county, Illinois; Henry, of this review; Annie, the deceased wife of Jacoby Meyer, of Pennsylvania; Susan, the widow of Daniel Brewer; John, who makes his home in Garden Plain township; and Ezra, of Franklin county, Pennsylvania.

Henry Brubaker was educated in the district schools of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and there grew to manhood. In 1865 he came westward to Whiteside county, Illinois, settling in Garden Plain township on the place where he now resides. He first purchased a tract of eighty acres which was slightly improved, paying thirty dollars per acre for the land, and subsequently bought forty acres adjoining, at thirty-five dollars per acre. Later he added to his holdings a tract of twenty-five acres, mostly timber land, for which he paid a thousand dollars, and has also purchased another eighty-acre tract at sixty-six dollars per acre. Mr. Brubaker has one of the best improved farms and most desirable locations in Garden Plain township, and his success is all the more commendable by reason of the fact that it has been gained entirely through his own well directed energy and straightforward business dealing. He is widely recognized as one of the most successful agriculturists and stock-raisers of the community and as a progressive and enterprising citizen.

In 1863 Mr. Brubaker was united in marriage to Miss Margaret E. Rinaker, a daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Hevel) Rinaker, natives of Pennsylvania and Germany respectively, the latter being eighteen years of age on her arrival in this country. Her father, who came to the United States prior to the Revolutionary war, took part in that struggle for liberty and was killed in battle. He had intended to bring his family to America as soon as he was able to do so. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Rinaker reared a family of eight children: John, who now resides in Moundridge, Kansas, served as a soldier of the Civil war for nine months. Mary is the deceased wife of John Miller. Catherine is the wife of Hiram Kirschner, of Oklahoma. Elizabeth is the next member of the family. Sarah is the deceased wife of William Spore. Samuel enlisted for service in the Civil war three different times, his first term being for three months, his second for nine months and his third term of enlistment for the remainder of the war. He served for almost five years and was never wounded, though he took part in a number of important and hotly contested engagements, including the battles of Bull Run and Gettysburg. He now makes his home in Oklahoma. Daniel and Annie Rinaker are both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Brubaker are the parents of three daughters: Laura, the wife of Ervin Hoff, of Garden Plain township; Emma, the wife of George Garwick, likewise of Garden Plain township; and Cora, who died at the age of thirteen years.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Brubaker are devoted and faithful members of the Church of Christ, and during the long period of their residence here have gained the warm esteem and friendship of many with whom they have come in contact, being well known as people of genuine personal worth and upright, honorable lives. Coming to this part of the state when it was still a pioneer region, they have watched with interest and likewise aided the slow, persistent work of development that has transformed the county into a rich agricultural district teeming with all the comforts and conveniences of a modern civilization.

JUDSON TAYLOR WILLIAMS.

Judson Taylor Williams, who resides upon Woodlawn farm near Sterling, is the owner of some of the finest farms of this section of the state, his landed possessions aggregating sixteen hundred acres. He is also extensively engaged in breeding livestock and stands as one of the foremost representatives of agricultural interests of central Illinois. His success as a breeder of live-stock has been so great, being the result of keen sagacity, business discrimination and experiment, as to render his opinions upon this subject largely conclusive.

He was born May 22, 1875, and in both the paternal and maternal lines is a representative of families prominent in the upbuilding and progress of this state. His paternal grandfather, David W. Williams, was a native of the Empire state and followed the occupation of farming at Argyle, New York,

where he died at the age of eighty-one years. His wife, Mrs. Margaret (Tacey) Williams, was of Scotch-Irish descent and was upwards of sixty-four years of age at the time of her death. They had two sons and a daughter, and by a former marriage David Williams had two children, one of whom, Robert, is now living in Waterloo, Iowa, at about the age of eighty-seven years.

Taylor Williams, father of our subject, was born in the state of New York and after arriving at years of maturity wedded Mary N. Jenne. Her father was Daniel C. Jenne, to whom Illinois and the upper Mississippi valley region is greatly indebted for its progress. He was associated in large and beneficial measure with the improvement of the waterways and the establishment of railroad transportation in this part of the country and in all of his work the public was a large, if indirect, beneficiary. His birth occurred at Shaftsbury, Vermont, in 1814. He became a civil engineer, following that profession through much of his life, although at different times he was also connected with the coal business and with railroad interests. Coming to the west, he purchased a large tract of land at Prophetstown, Illinois. He also lived in Chicago for a time but died in Sterling, when more than seventy-one years of age. At the time of his death, in 1886, he was president of the Brazil Block Coal Company. For many years he had charge of the eastern division of the Erie canal, the Black River canal and the Champlain canal and was known as a division engineer. At the same time he was chief engineer of the Utica & Black River Railroad. In 1867 there came to him very unexpectedly an appointment whereby he was placed in charge of the improvement of the Mississippi river at Keokuk, Iowa. While at that place he was appointed by the state of Illinois to take charge of the Illinois river improvement and to put in locks and dams. After the completion of this work he began operating in the coal fields and continued in that business up to the time of his demise, his previous experience in civil engineering proving of much value to him in this later line of work. In 1856, at the solicitation of Governor Horatio Seymour, he went to Appleton, Wisconsin, to take charge of the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. In 1862 he went to Kenosha, where he built the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad. On the completion of that line he returned to Albany, New York, where he resumed his old position of division engineer of the New York canals. His life work was therefore of a most important nature, proving an element in the development and progress of various localities. Throughout his entire life he was a consistent member of the Baptist church and at the time of his death was a trustee of the Divinity School at Morgan Park, Illinois, and also chairman of the building committee which erected the library there. A gentleman of plain and unpretentious manner, he possessed nevertheless great strength of character and commanded the respect and confidence of all who knew him.

Daniel C. Jenne married Nancy D. Butler, a daughter of Ezekiel and Eunice (Shaw) Butler, the former a son of Luther and Hannah (Wilson) Butler, while Eunice Shaw was a daughter of Eunice and Dorcas (Gee) Shaw. The ancestry of the Jenne family could also be traced back to a much more remote period, Daniel Jenne being descended from John Jenne, who in 1623 came on the third ship from England. The death of Mrs. Daniel

Jenne occurred in Chicago, when she was seventy-four years of age. Their family numbered four children, including Mrs. Mary J. Williams, who was a native of the Empire state and became the wife of Taylor Williams, their only child being Judson Taylor Williams of this review.

The father, Taylor Williams, was a grain dealer and live-stock buyer, who prior to the Civil war came to the west, settling at Ottawa, Illinois, about 1856 or 1857. Thence he removed to Sterling and began farming, while subsequently he operated a coal mine at Rapid City, at Cleveland, at Happy Hollow and also at St. David, Norris, Clark City and Gardner, Illinois. He was thus closely associated with the development of the natural resources of the state in taking from the earth its rich coal deposits and as he met prosperity in his undertakings he made judicious investments in property and became the owner of valuable farming lands. He dealt extensively in grain and in live-stock, and although his business interests called him to various localities he still retained his residence in Sterling and here died in 1897, at the age of sixty-six years. Mrs. Mary J. Williams still survives him. The father had been previously married, his first union being with Susan Mickle and to them was born a daughter, Elizabeth, now the wife of C. E. Goltman, of Sterling. At one time Taylor and Mary J. Williams were members of the Baptist church but in later life Mr. Williams became identified with the Presbyterian church. He was a man of exemplary traits of character, honorable and reliable in every relation of life, and Sterling recognized him as one of its foremost citizens. His path was never strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes, his success resulting from a fair exchange in purchase and sale, from judicious investment and the legitimate profit which arises from an honorable conduct of business.

Judson T. Williams, always a resident of Sterling, attended the public schools of the city in his early youth and afterward continued his education in Lake Forest Academy, at Lake Forest, Illinois. When he had completed his education he spent two or three years in buying live-stock and was afterward engaged in the coal business for six years at St. Louis. He then returned to his old home in Sterling and in 1904 he purchased what was known as the Whipple farm, adjoining the corporation limits of the city on the west. He breeds, buys and sells live-stock, handling trotting horses, Percherons, saddle horses and Shetland ponies. He also breeds and raises Holstein, Hereford, Aberdeen Angus and polled Durham cattle, which are distributed over the five large farms which he owns. He resides on what is known as the Woodlawn farm at the edge of the town. His landed possessions, however, aggregate sixteen hundred acres. In connection with John N. Harpham he built what is known as the Harpham & Williams building, at the corner of Third and Locust streets, one of the fine business blocks of Sterling. He is a most excellent judge of live-stock and his investments have been judiciously made. In all of his business interests he displays sound judgment and keen sagacity.

On the 21st of April, 1898, Mr. Williams was married to Miss Olive Wood, a daughter of Thomas Wood, but she died on the 13th of July, just three months after her marriage. On the 31st of March, 1903, Mr. Williams was joined in wedlock to Miss Jennie Hoover, a daughter of David and Mar-

garet (Graybill) Hoover. They have two children, Virginia and Jackson Taylor. Mrs. Williams is a member of the Methodist church and a most estimable lady. Her paternal grandfather was John Hoover, who became an early resident of Whiteside county and here spent his remaining days. His wife was a Miss Sprecher. The maternal grandfather was John Graybill, a native of Pennsylvania, who cast in his lot with the pioneer residents of Ogle county, Illinois. The parents of Mrs. Jennie Williams were natives of Pennsylvania and became early settlers of Whiteside county, her father here following the occupation of farming. He died March 13, 1900, at the age of sixty-four years, and is still survived by his wife. They had two children but the elder daughter, Florence May, died at the age of three years.

In his political views Mr. Williams is a stalwart republican but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has preferred to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. As a business man he has been conspicuous among his associates not only for his success but for his probity, fairness and honorable methods. In everything he has been eminently practical and this has been manifest not only in his business undertakings but also in social and private life. His activity as a live-stock dealer has not only contributed to his individual success but has also been a factor in agricultural progress, as he has done much to improve the grade of stock raised and thereby advance prices. He is yet a young man but has already attained a notable measure of success, making him one of the prosperous residents of Sterling.

GEORGE W. BREWER.

No resident of Whiteside county has so long resided within its borders as George W. Brewer, who dates his residence here from 1837. The history of early settlement would be incomplete without his record, for from the early founding of the town he has been a prominent factor in its substantial growth and improvement. The land was largely in the primitive condition in which it came from the hand of nature and through his agency much of it has been reclaimed for the purposes of cultivation. He has as the years have gone by purchased and sold large tracts of land in the county and his business operations have always been carefully conducted, making his investments profitable. Now in his declining years he is living retired, enjoying a well-earned rest, which is the merited reward of a long and honorable business career.

Mr. Brewer was born about eight miles from Cooperstown, in Otsego county, New York, on the 6th of May, 1827, his parents being Henry and Lucinda (Johnson) Brewer, who were also natives of the Empire state. The paternal grandfather was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and of German descent. Henry Brewer was a wagonmaker by trade and followed that pursuit during the greater part of his life. In 1836 he came to the middle west to look over the country and in the fall returned to the east. The following



Elizabeth J. Brewer



George W. Brewer

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spring he started with his family to Whiteside county, settling in the western side of the county. The trip was made down the Allegheny and Ohio rivers in a lumber raft. At Louisville the raft was tied up and the owner deserted it, leaving Henry Brewer without means to continue his journey further. Necessity, however, is the mother of invention, and he perfected plans whereby he could continue his journey, eventually landing from a steamboat with his family at St. Louis. From that point they went to Rock Island as passengers on another boat. While at St. Louis Mr. Brewer met a brother Mason, and giving the sign of distress, received a loan of sixty dollars from the Mason, who also assisted him with teams on his way to his destination to Whiteside county. A very exciting incident occurred, however, before the party left St. Louis. Some time before leaving the wharf Henry Brewer left the boat and was absent so long that it was feared some accident had befallen him. The doubts and fears of the passengers were highly intensified by a report that a man had been murdered and his body thrown into the river. Mrs. Brewer was in great distress of mind and a second report that a man who had tried to walk the gang plank and get into the boat had just fallen into the river by no means calmed her alarm. She felt sure that it must have been her husband and lighted a tallow candle to go to the rear of the boat and see if the body would appear. There was no guard rail at the stern of the vessel and in the darkness she walked right off the boat and fell into the river. A man in the crowd suggested starting the paddle wheel to working as the only hope of bringing her body to the surface. This proved to be a good suggestion, for in a few seconds Mrs. Brewer appeared, clinging by one hand with a death-like grip to the paddle wheel, while in the other she held the tallow candle. The men assisted her to get aboard the boat and while she stood amid the large crowd of passengers all gathered around her, the water dripping from her clothing, her husband suddenly appeared upon the scene.

At length the party reached Whiteside county in safety and here Henry Brewer found the frame of a house, but there was no roof upon it. Later he found a shingle shanty about twelve by sixteen feet, in which the family made their home for about six weeks. They next moved into a log cabin in Portland township which had a hole in it for a window and also a small opening for a door, but there was no floor and no gable end nor was the cabin chinked. They lived there, however, for a few months and in February of the following year removed to what was then Harrisburg, making a permanent settlement upon ground that is now part of the site of Sterling at the head of the rapids of Rock river, another town called Chatham being at the foot of the rapids. The first settler here was a man by the name of Hezekiah Brink.

Henry Brewer could not find work at his trade of wagon-making and therefore turned his attention to carpentering for a time, assisting in building a number of the first houses of the county, the timber for which was cut and hewed right on the ground, parties wanting to improve the land having free access to the timber on the town site. The shingles were made, cut and shaved by hand. Mr. Brewer aided in large measure in the pioneer develop-

ment of the community and witnessed a most wonderful transformation as the years passed by. As soon as he could he built a house and wagon shop for himself, hauling logs to Brink's sawmill, which was built after his arrival in the county. He split out spokes and seasoned them and bought plank at the mill and seasoned that, after which he built his wagons, continuing in the business until his death, which occurred February 27, 1848. He was then aged fifty-nine years, two months and twenty-nine days. His wife survived him until January 6, 1867, and had reached the age of seventy-eight years and nine days at the time of her demise. Both were consistent members of the Universalist church.

In their family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, George W. Brewer is the only one now living. He was ten years of age at the time the family made their memorable trip from the Empire state to Illinois, and during intervening years Whiteside county has continuously been his home. In fact, he lives upon an adjoining block to the one on which his father settled in what is now Sterling and has never moved but once. His boyhood days were spent in work in his father's shop, where he thoroughly mastered the wagonmaker's trade, and after his father's death he became his successor and carried on the business for five years. He then traded the shop for a farm in Sterling township and for a considerable period bought, improved and sold land, but always made his home in the city, he and his wife having lived for fifty-one years on one corner. In his investments in property he showed wise judgment and keen discernment, and his carefully conducted business interests brought to him a gratifying measure of prosperity.

Mr. Brewer was married in Walworth county, Wisconsin, on the 4th of March, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth S. Green, a daughter of David and Ruth (Southwick) Green. His father having died, Mr. Brewer moved with his bride into the home of his mother and there lived for five years, after which he took his household effects to his present home, which he has built up and improved as the years have gone by until it is now a fine residence property.

Ten children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Brewer, four sons and six daughters, of whom four are yet living: Delora Elizabeth is the wife of Isaac S. Bressler, a resident of Jordan township, and they have three children, Fred Nelson, George Brewer and Carrie Elizabeth. Orra Leona is the wife of John Bressler, living near Sterling, and they have one son, Harry Brewer Bressler. Carrie May is the wife of William P. Northcott, of La Grange, Illinois, and their children are Horace Brewer, Ruth Elizabeth and Florence Harriet. Myrtie Mabel is the wife of Charles Otis Lipp, a resident of Aurora, Illinois, and they have three children, Helen Elizabeth, Evelyn Lucile and Charles Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer have two great-grandchildren, Gladys Carrie Bressler and Edward Nelson Bressler. Those of the family now deceased are: Emma, born March 26, 1856; George N., born August 12, 1857; Hattie L., born June 18, 1859; Charles D., born December 8, 1860; William H., born November 30, 1863; and Eddie C., born June 6, 1866.

Mr. and Mrs. Brewer are members of the Methodist church, she being a charter member of the church at Sterling, and they have lived lives of

uprightness and integrity, gaining for them the respect of all with whom they have been brought in contact. Politically Mr. Brewer is a republican, giving stalwart support to the party since its organization. For about thirty years he served as a school director, was also alderman for a number of years and township collector, discharging his official duties with promptness and fidelity.

In the early days of his residence here he hauled grain from Sterling to Chicago with an ox team, making his first trip before he attained his majority and receiving ten dollars for his load of wheat, which sold for fifty cents per bushel and he received twenty-five cents per bushel for hauling it. Nine dollars of the same was expended for a thousand feet of barn boards, some of which are still in the gable of his barn. When making the trips to market in that way the early settlers camped out at nights and took provisions with them for the meals on the journey. There is particular satisfaction in reverting to the life history of this honored and venerable gentleman, since his mind bears the impress of the historic annals of the state from early pioneer days and also from the fact that he has attained to a position of distinctive prominence in the thriving city where he has retained his residence from 1837 until the present time, being now one of the revered patriarchs of the community.

JOSEPH C. SNYDER.

Joseph C. Snyder, one of the prominent, energetic and successful business men of Fulton, whose labors contribute to general prosperity as well as to individual interests, is today engaged in dealing in grain, fuel and building materials. The recognition of his personal worth on the part of his fellow-men has been manifest in his election to various positions of public honor and trust. He has been Fulton's chief executive and postmaster and is now filling the office of county supervisor. His birth occurred in Fulton, November 14, 1857, his parents being William C. and Isyphene C. (Pearce) Snyder, natives of New Jersey and Rhode Island respectively. They came to Illinois in 1849, immediately after their marriage, which was celebrated in Clinton county, Iowa. Establishing their home in Fulton, Mr. Snyder engaged in the grain business, which he made his principal occupation, although he also extended his efforts to other fields of activity. He was prominent in public affairs of the community and in 1861 was appointed postmaster of Fulton by President Lincoln, filling the position for twenty years. During the fall of 1882 he was elected to represent his district in the state senate, where he served for one term. He occupied other official positions in the county, including that of drainage commissioner, discharging his duties with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. His life was characterized by a lofty patriotism and an unfaltering devotion to what he believed to be right, whether in political circles, in business or in any other relation of life. He died in May, 1902, and is still survived by his widow, who yet resides in Fulton. They were

the parents of eight children of whom the eldest died in infancy. The others are: Kate C., now the wife of Thomas J. Pickett, a resident of Wahoo, Nebraska; Martha C., who is the widow of Jerome C. Neff and is living in New Jersey; Annie E., the wife of Albert Stetson, of Los Angeles, California; Joseph C., of this review; James J., who married Minnie Mickelsen, of Morrison, Illinois, but is now deceased; C. Henry, a resident of Berkeley, California; and Lena V., now of Fulton.

Joseph C. Snyder pursued his education in the public schools of Fulton and at the age of fifteen years started out upon his business career as a printer's "devil." He served for nine years in the printing office and in 1881 became his father's associate as dealer in grain, feed, fuel and building materials, in which line his father had been eminently successful. The business relation between them continued until the father's death and Mr. Snyder has since carried on operations alone. He controls a large annual trade in these lines and is numbered among the energetic business men whose labors are an element in promoting commercial prosperity here.

Mr. Snyder was married on the 29th of March, 1885, to Miss Hattie L. Noble, a daughter of Hiram and Sophie E. (Summers) Noble, who came to Fulton prior to their marriage. Mr. Noble arrived August 18, 1856, while his wife removed to this place from Sterling at an earlier date. They were thus pioneer residents of the county and were interested witnesses of its early development as well as its later day progress. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Noble were born five children, of whom three reached years of maturity: Mrs. Snyder; Harry B., of Fulton; and Elizabeth, the wife of Charles S. Ruaile, of Mason City, Iowa. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have been born five children: Ada, Belle, Paul N., Earl C. and Byron J.

Mr. Snyder has served his town for one term as postmaster and has also been mayor of the city. He has likewise been a member of the board of aldermen and of the school board and takes an active interest in politics as a life-long republican, who does everything in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. In 1906 he was elected to the office of county supervisor and has been one of the active members of the board, doing much effective service for the interests of the county. His loyalty and patriotism are salient characteristics in his life record and he stands today as one of the prominent factors in the business circles of Fulton—a man whose worth and ability have gained him success, honor and public confidence.

FREDERICK W. ULRICH.

The growth and development of a city depends not so much upon its machinery of government or even upon the men who fill its public offices as it does upon those who represent its commercial and industrial activity. To the latter class belongs Mr. Ulrich, a manufacturer of improved garden tools and implements at Rock Falls. He was born in Schlessen, Germany, July 22, 1854, a son of Gottfried and Susanna Ulrich, who were likewise natives of

the fatherland. There also occurred the birth of the grandparents of our subject, who spent their entire lives in Germany. The maternal grandfather engaged in the lumber business there. Gottfried Ulrich became a farmer of Germany and was identified with agricultural interests until 1865, when he sailed for the new world, settling in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he worked as a laborer. In 1893 he came to Rock Falls to live with his son Frederick, with whom he remained for three or four years, and then went to Guttenberg, Iowa, where he resided until his death on the 31st of January, 1898. He had reached the venerable age of ninety-two years, and his wife, still surviving, lives in Guttenberg, Iowa, at the age of eighty-five. They were consistent in their religious faith as members of the Lutheran church and always attempted to follow closely the teachings of that denomination.

Frederick W. Ulrich was a lad of eleven years when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States. The father landed a poor man, having spent all the money he had accumulated to bring his family to this country. He believed, however, that he would have better opportunity here for achieving financial independence nor was he disappointed in this hope, for as the years passed by he became prosperous and died leaving a competency. His son Frederick was reared in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and in Michigan and had the advantage of instruction in a parochial school conducted under the teachings of the German Lutheran church. He was confirmed in that church when about fourteen years of age.

At the age of sixteen he started to learn the machinist's trade, working for a dollar and a half per week and boarding at home for a year. His employer then went to Manistee, Michigan, where he conducted a machine shop and foundry, and Mr. Ulrich accompanied him and remained in his employ for another year, receiving as a compensation three dollars per week and his board. That he was faithful and able in his service is indicated by the fact that he remained with that employer for four years and during the latter part of the third year he was given two dollars and a quarter per day, while still later he received higher wages. He had continually advanced in efficiency, becoming an expert workman. Returning to Milwaukee Mr. Ulrich entered the employ of the Queen City Iron Works, with which he was connected for four years, and later was employed by the E. B. Allis Company for a short time. With five others he then formed a partnership and engaged in the manufacture of bits, augers and various wood cutting tools at Rockford, Illinois. A year later he sold his interest in that enterprise and came to Rock Falls, joining E. F. Brock & Company, manufacturing garden tools and novelties. He remained with that firm for about three years and then embarked in business on his own account in 1885 in the Industrial building, now the Lawrence building in Rock Falls. He manufactured butter tub machinery and conducted a machine shop, this being the foundation of his present business—the manufacture of improved garden tools and implements. His annual output is now extensive and his product is sold to jobbers, dealers, agents and also to consumers. From the establishment of the business it has constantly developed in growth and importance, and in 1899 the extent of his trade justified the erection of his present factory, which is located on the

east side of Third street near the tracks of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. The plant is well equipped with the latest improved machinery and the house sustains an unassailable reputation for the character of its goods and the reliability of its products.

On the 15th of September, 1879, Mr. Ulrich was married to Miss Harriet Amelia Lovelace, and they had three children, William Julius, Edward and Frederick Simon, but the first named was drowned at the age of ten years. The second son is now living in New York city, while the youngest son is in his father's employ. He possesses a studious nature and a religious trend of mind and does some preaching in the Christian church, with which he holds membership. He was a soldier of the Spanish-American war, serving in the Philippines until his discharge as civilian scout with the Seventeenth Ilakana Scouts on the island of Mindora.

Mr. and Mrs. Ulrich are members of the Christian church and are greatly esteemed in the community as people of genuine worth. Mr. Ulrich belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp and to the Mystic Workers, and his attitude on the temperance question is indicated by the fact that he gives his support to the prohibition party. He resides at No. 502 Dixon avenue, where he erected a pleasant home in 1902. His influence is always found on the side of justice, truth, right and progress, and this is manifest in his social relations and in his attitude toward public interests as well as in his business career.

D. G. ACKERMAN.

The year 1858 witnessed the arrival of D. G. Ackerman in Whiteside county but he remained only a short time and returned to his old home in New Jersey. In 1876, however, he came again and has since resided within the borders of the county. The place of his nativity was Paterson, New Jersey, and his natal day February 13, 1832. His parents, Garret and Elizabeth (Watson) Ackerman, were representatives of old families of New Jersey and were well known farming people there. They never left the east and passed away in New Jersey many years ago.

D. G. Ackerman is the only survivor of the family of five children. He was reared in the east and has always followed the trade of a mason and builder, although in early life he was also connected with agricultural interests and of later years has again taken to farming. He was married first in New Jersey to Miss Elizabeth Perrine, who died in that state leaving one son, Ira, who passed away at the age of twenty-two years. For his second wife Mr. Ackerman chose Miss Elizabeth Ackerman, who passed away in New Jersey, leaving two children, William and Elizabeth, the former now deceased and the latter the wife of W. C. Wink, a resident of Missouri.

As previously stated, D. G. Ackerman came to Whiteside county in 1858 and here spent the summer but was not then ready to make Illinois his place of residence and returning to New Jersey there remained until the spring of 1876. He then again came to Illinois and has since made his home here. On the 4th of November, 1879, he married Mrs. Robert McKay, nee Catherine

Blue, who was born in Toronto, Canada, August 17, 1839, a daughter of Donald and Catherine (McFarland) Blue, both of whom were natives of the highlands of Scotland and on crossing the Atlantic settled in the United States. Two years later they removed to Toronto, Canada, and in the fall of 1839 came to Illinois, establishing their home in Clyde township, Whiteside county. Here the father carried on general agricultural pursuits until he retired. Putting aside business cares, he removed to Morrison, where he lived for eighteen years. His wife died there at the age of eighty-four years and he afterward lived for two years again upon the farm prior to his demise, which occurred in 1890, when he had reached the very remarkable old age of ninety-two years.

Mrs. Ackerman was one of eleven children, of whom four died in infancy, while a brother died at the age of seventeen years and a sister at the age of eleven. The other six reached years of maturity. Of these Alexander went to California in 1852, after which he returned to the middle west. In 1858 he started with his brothers, Donald and Charles, for Pike's Peak and they were lost in one of the severe storms of the plains. Two of them starved to death but the youngest was found by the Indians and cared for by them. He afterward came home and is still living. The sisters were: Isabella, who is the widow of John Brett, a resident of Washington; and Jane, who became the wife of John Wilson, a resident of Clyde township. Both are now deceased. They had two daughters and three sons, who reside in this county, while another daughter lives at Freeport, Illinois, and a daughter and son are residents of Evanston, Illinois.

Mrs. Ackerman is one of the few remaining pioneer settlers of Whiteside county. Her people were among the first to locate here when every evidence of the frontier was to be found. Wild game was to be had in abundance and one could travel for miles across the prairie without coming to any sign of habitation. Mrs. Ackerman attended the private schools of that early day and was trained in the duties of the household, thus becoming well qualified to take charge of a home of her own at the time of her marriage. On the 24th of November, 1868, she became the wife of Robert McKay, who was born near Toronto, Canada, in 1837, and was there reared. He became a resident of Morrison in 1859 and entered the blacksmith's shop of Mr. Stocking. He was thus employed at his trade until 1867, when he purchased the farm just north of Malvern which was the home of Mrs. Ackerman until destroyed by fire January 31, 1908. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McKay were born two children: Charles Neil, who died at the age of ten years; and Donald G., who has taught school and engaged in the life insurance business but is now following farming. He married Olive Wink, a native of Whiteside county, and they have four daughters and a son: Iva May, Mildred L., Gertrude Althea, Catherine Elizabeth and Donald. The death of Robert McKay occurred in Morrison in the fall of 1874. Mrs. McKay afterward became the wife of D. G. Ackerman, and to them was born one son, Garret, who died in 1905, at the age of twenty-six years.

Mr. Ackerman is a democrat in his political preference, but has never held political or other office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his

business affairs and private interests. He was a member of the American Mechanics and of the Odd Fellows Society. Mrs. Ackerman is a member of the Dunkard church. He has for more than thirty years resided in the county, while Mrs. Ackerman is one of the best known pioneer women, and a representative of one of the oldest families. Their good qualities have gained them lasting friendships, and the fact that those who have known them longest are numbered among their warmest friends is an indication that their life principles are such as awaken confidence, trust and high regard. They are now living in Malvern.

ALBERT JUDSON JACKSON.

Among the earnest men whose depth of character and strict adherence to principle excite the admiration of his contemporaries, Albert J. Jackson is prominent. Banking institutions are the heart of the commercial body, indicating the healthfulness of trade, and the bank that follows a safe, conservative business policy does more to establish public confidence in times of widespread financial depression than anything else. Such a course has the First National Bank of Morrison followed under the able management of its cashier and other officers. From its organization Mr. Jackson has served as cashier and thus occupies a prominent position in financial circles, while in many other ways, but always quietly and unostentatiously, he has contributed to the development of the city.

He was born in Knox county, Ohio, May 12, 1837. His father, Nathaniel M. Jackson, was a native of New Jersey, born May 20, 1803, and when a lad accompanied his parents on their removal to Knox county, Ohio. He was of English ancestry and his grandfather, Benjamin Jackson, served as a sergeant in a Morris county (N. J.) organization in the Revolutionary war. He was at Valley Forge during the memorable winter there spent by the colonial troops and proved his loyalty through the sufferings which he endured. His son, Ziba Jackson, father of Nathaniel, served as a soldier in the war of 1812. Nathaniel Jackson was reared to the occupation of farming and at an early period in the development of Knox county, Ohio, there purchased land, which he transformed into a good farm, bringing it under a high state of cultivation. He held membership in the Presbyterian church, took a great interest in the church work and for many years served as one of its elders. In politics he was originally an old-line whig and afterward became a supporter of the free-soil party, while subsequently he joined the ranks of the new republican party, formed to prevent the further extension of slavery. He held a number of township offices and was a man of influence in the community in which he lived.

On leaving Ohio, Nathaniel Jackson removed to Illinois in 1854, settling on section 18, Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, where he purchased and improved a tract of land. He was associated with others in laying out the town of Morrison, a part of which was situated on forty acres

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Jennie Jackson



A. J. Jackson

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of land owned by Mr. Jackson. In his later years he retired from farming and established his home in Morrison, where he purchased a residence. In the meantime, however, he had bought a farm at Prairie Center, where he had lived for about twelve years. At one time he served on the city council of Morrison and in 1874-5 was mayor of the city, to which he gave a public-spirited and business-like administration. He died in April, 1890, while his wife passed away in 1881. She bore the maiden name of Harriet Nightser and was born in Morris county, New Jersey, July 25, 1811. She came of Holland Dutch ancestry and was a daughter of John and Abigail Nightser, who on leaving the east removed to Ohio. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Jackson was celebrated in Knox county of the latter state. Mrs. Jackson held membership in the Presbyterian church and was a devoted wife and mother. By her marriage she had four children: Albert J., Aaron Byram, Jephtha N. and Mitchell L. The second son was the first man who enlisted for service in the Civil war from Morrison and the first from that place to lay down his life upon the altar of his country. He enlisted within a half hour after the news was received that Fort Sumter had been fired upon, becoming a member of Company G, Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, and died in the hospital at Rolla, Missouri, in October, 1861, at the age of twenty-two years, while serving as a non-commissioned officer. Jephtha N. Jackson, who was born in Ohio, October 16, 1843, served as a member of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, which was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, enlisting first in the one hundred days' service. He is now a farmer, living in Union Grove township. Mitchell L., born October 14, 1851, died in Kansas.

Albert J. Jackson was reared upon his father's farm in Ohio to the age of twenty years. He acquired his education in the country schools and afterward engaged in teaching school for about five months. On attaining his majority he went into the law office of Joseph Ware at Morrison, Illinois, under whose direction he continued his reading for three years. He was then admitted to the bar in the spring of 1861 and began the practice of law in Morrison. In 1863 he formed a partnership with Orr F. Woodruff, which connection was continued for two years. In 1863 he also engaged in the banking business, establishing a private bank under the firm name of Stiles & Company. With that institution he was associated until December, 1864, when Mr. Stiles retired and Mr. Jackson formed a partnership with Leander Smith, of Fulton, Illinois, under the firm name of L. Smith & Company, private bankers. This association was maintained until January 28, 1865, when the First National Bank of Morrison was organized by Leander Smith, who was its first president, while Mr. Jackson became its first cashier, and associated with them as directors were Lester H. Robinson, A. Nelson Young, Willis F. Johnson, Aaron C. Jackson, Charles Spears, William Spears, Winfield S. Wilkinson, Charles Shirk and James Snyder. The bank was capitalized for fifty thousand dollars and in 1871 this was increased to one hundred thousand dollars. The deposits of the bank for 1865 were thirty-nine thousand two hundred and ninety-four dollars and fifty-one cents and for the year 1906 were two hundred and sixty-six thousand dollars, a fact which stands in incontrovertible evidence of the growth and success of the institu-

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tion. Mr. Jackson still remains as cashier of the bank and has served continuously as a national bank cashier for a longer period than any other man in the United States. The First National Bank of Morrison was the first institution organized under the national banking laws in Whiteside county. It is one of the conservative and substantial moneyed institutions of this part of the state and its success is attributable in large measure to the efforts, the executive ability and the enterprise of Mr. Jackson.

On the 15th of December, 1863, Mr. Jackson was married to Miss Jennie Quackenbush, who was born in Paterson, New Jersey, January 21, 1843, and was of Holland Dutch descent. She speaks the language of her ancestors as well as the English tongue. Her parents were David J. and Ann Quackenbush, the former a bricklayer, who came to Illinois in August, 1856, and located at Morrison, where he spent his remaining days. He was a veteran of the Civil war, serving as a member of Company B Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jackson have been born two sons and a daughter: Carl, in business in South Dakota; Kittie, at home; and Pierre, who is a member of the firm of Wilkinson & Company, conducting an abstract business in Morrison. The wife and mother died October 8, 1906, and her death was deeply deplored by many friends as well as her immediate family.

Mr. Jackson is a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he is serving as trustee, while in the work of the church he is helpfully interested. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and is also a member of the Bankers' Association of the state and the National Bankers' Association. His political allegiance is given the democracy and he served as mayor of Morrison in 1876-7. He also filled the office of deputy county treasurer from 1858 to 1861, inclusive, and after his retirement from that office he enlisted in July, 1861, for service with the boys in blue in the Civil war, joining Company A of the Second Illinois Cavalry, with which he continued for a year. He was elected by his company to the rank of second lieutenant and resigned in 1862, having been injured by his horse, the result of which unfitted him for service. He is now a member of Alpheus Clark Post, No. 118, G. A. R., and served as its commander in 1900. He is also a member of the Loyal Legion of the United States and takes an active interest in military affairs and in his associations with his old army comrades.

CHARLES M. LYTLE.

Charles M. Lytle, manager of the Rock Falls Manufacturing Company on East Third street in Sterling, belongs to that class of respected and representative American men who owe their business advancement and prosperity entirely to their own efforts. Early coming to a realization of the value of industry and guiding his efforts by sound judgment, he has become a forceful factor in business circles and since July, 1905, has occupied his present position in Sterling.

A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Lytle was born in Erie county near the city of Erie, in July, 1852, his parents being Andrew and Nancy Ann (McKay) Lytle, also natives of Erie county. The former was a grandson of John Lytle, Sr., who came of French Huguenot ancestry, the family being founded in America at an early day. He served as a captain in the Revolutionary war and was in charge of Fort Freeland. His son, John Lytle, was born in the Keystone state and followed farming as a life work. He was the first representative in the legislature from the northwestern part of his district, comprising at that time what is now Erie, Crawford and Warren counties. Death came to him suddenly in a runaway accident. His wife, Mrs. Jane (Anderson) Lytle, was more than ninety years of age at the time of her demise. They reared a large family.

The maternal grandfather of Charles M. Lytle was John McKay, who was born on the borderland of Scotland and on coming to America settled in Crawford county, Pennsylvania. Later he removed to Erie county, that state, where he died in middle life. He had followed weaving to provide for his family. His wife, who in her maidenhood was Miss Long, died at an advanced age.

Andrew Lytle, father of our subject, was a tanner by trade, conducting a tannery on his farm near Erie for many years. In his later life he lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest. In his community he was prominent and influential, served as collector and assessor, and that he was worthy of the utmost trust and confidence was indicated by the fact that he was made administrator of many estates. He died in 1876 at the age of seventy-two years, while his wife passed away in 1893 at the age of eighty-five years. They were both members of the old Scotch Presbyterian church and afterward became identified with the United Presbyterian church. Their family numbered seven sons: John, living at Oak Park, near Chicago; James, of Erie county, Pennsylvania; Robert, who is assistant postmaster of Decatur, Illinois; George, who is engaged in the drug business at New Boston, Mercer county, Illinois; Henry, proprietor of a grocery at Waterford, Pennsylvania; Charles M., of this review; and Frank, who died when about eight years of age.

Charles M. Lytle was reared in Erie county and attended the old Northwestern Academy there but when fifteen years of age started out in life on his own account and has since been dependent upon his own resources. He began clerking in a dry-goods and clothing store and followed that pursuit until 1880, when he came to Illinois and accepted a position as traveling salesman for the Decatur Furniture Company. Later he entered the office of the Decatur Coffin Company and had charge of the office for twenty years. His ability in that direction led to his selection for his present position. He came to Sterling in July, 1905, to accept the position of manager of the Rock Falls Manufacturing Company, makers of coffins, hearses and all undertakers' supplies. This is a very important and responsible position, employment being furnished to eighty-five people, and their goods are sold all over the country. The company won a silver medal on its exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1904.

On the 25th of May, 1876, Mr. Lytle was united in marriage to Miss Mary Frances Thomas, a daughter of W. W. and Mary (Small) Thomas. They have one daughter, Hortense, now the wife of C. G. Heiby, a resident of Decatur, and the mother of one child, Frances Jane Heiby. Mrs. Lytle is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Lytle gives his political allegiance to the republican party, being inflexible in his support of its principles. He belongs to Macon Lodge, No. 8, A. F. & A. M., and is prominent in the Odd Fellows society, holding membership in Celestial Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F. He served as the grand patriarch in the Grand Encampment of the state of Illinois in 1900 and 1901, and was a delegate to the sovereign grand sessions of 1901 and 1902. He was also the first secretary of the Odd Fellows Old Folks' Home at Mattoon, Illinois, and at present occupies the position of brigade commander of the Second Brigade of the Patriarchs Militant. He is most highly esteemed by his brethren of that fraternity, while in business circles he has made for himself a creditable name by his unfaltering devotion to every duty entrusted to him, combined with marked ability as a successful manager.

ARTHUR H. HARMS, M. D.

Dr. Arthur H. Harms, engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery with office in the Academy of Music at Sterling, is one of the native sons of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Dixon on the 22nd of December, 1880. His parents were Anton W. and Mary S. (Ahrens) Harms, natives of Dixon, Illinois, and of Oldenburg, Germany, respectively. The paternal grandfather, Anton W. Harms, was born on the island of Heligoland, north of Germany, and made farming his life work. Emigrating to America in 1837, he located at Buffalo, New York, and afterward removed westward to Galena, Illinois. At a later date he took up his abode at Dixon and there purchased the interests of Harris and Mason, who had come from the south to establish a plantation. Upon that place he spent his remaining days and the stone house which he there built is still standing, one of the landmarks of the community. He was eighty-nine years of age at the time of his demise, and his wife, Mrs. Anna (Hector) Harms, was about eighty-six years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of five children and by a former marriage the father also had five children.

Aaron Ahrens, the maternal grandfather of Mr. Harms, was born at Oldenburg, Germany, and about 1855 came to the United States. He afterward returned to his native country, where he lived for several years and in 1868 again made his way to the new world, settling on the present site of Clinton, Iowa. His next removal brought him to Sterling, where he still resides at the venerable age of eighty-four years. His wife, Mrs. Gertrude (Soecker) Ahrens, died a number of years ago at the age of about sixty-seven. In their family were three sons and one daughter, including Mary S. Ahrens, who became the wife of Anton W. Harms. Mr. Harms throughout his active

business life followed the occupation of farming and for many years lived in Palmyra township, but in 1905 took up his abode in Dixon, where he is now retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former labor. He has a good income property in his home farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. In their family are three children: Arthur H., of this review; Herbert W. and Jessie B., both of Dixon.

Dr. Harms, whose name introduces this record, was reared upon the old homestead farm in Palmyra township, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the district schools and the North Dixon high school, from which he was graduated in 1894. He afterward spent about two years in Steinman Institute at Dixon prior to entering the University of Chicago, where he pursued a combination course, devoting a part of his time to scientific branches and the remainder to the study of medicine. He further continued his professional education in Rush Medical College and in 1904 located for practice in Sterling, where he has since remained. He is thoroughly conversant with the most modern methods of the profession and is continually promoting his efficiency by study and research. He is now health officer of the city and he belongs to the Sterling and Rock Falls Physicians' Club, the County and State Medical Societies and the American Medical Association.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Dr. Harms was married on the 29th of May, 1906, to Miss Alice Ward, a daughter of Judge Henry C. and Mary (Anthony) Ward. They now have a little son, H. Ward Harms. Dr. Harms and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and he belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M. Politically he is a republican. In his chosen life work he is making continued advancement, his patronage steadily growing as he gives proof of his ability to cope with the complex problems that continually confront the physician.

WILLIAM J. BURLEIGH.

William J. Burleigh, manager of the Novelty Iron Works, to which responsible position he has worked his way upward by his close application, unfaltering fidelity and business capacity, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, October 15, 1867. His parents, Jedathan and Elizabeth (Stockwell) Burleigh, were both natives of New England, the former born in New Hampshire and the latter in Massachusetts. The paternal grandfather, also a native of the old Granite state, was of English descent. The maternal grandfather, born in Massachusetts, likewise came of English ancestry. Jedathan Burleigh was a pattern-maker and followed that business in Boston and other eastern cities. He died December 3, 1870, at the age of thirty-three years, and since 1883 his widow has been a resident of Sterling. They had but two children, the daughter being Lizzie, the wife of John Cline of this city.

The son, William J. Burleigh, spent the first seven years of his life in his native city, and then went with his parents to Northampton, Massachu-

setts, where he attended the public schools, acquiring a good English education. When his school life was ended he accepted a clerkship in a book store, remaining in the east until 1883, when he came with his mother to Sterling. Here he accepted a clerkship in a grocery store, where he continued for a short time, when he began learning his pattern-making trade, which he followed for several years. On the expiration of that period he accepted the position of shipping clerk in the Novelty Iron Works, and in May, 1903, was promoted to manager of the company. The product of the factory includes furnace registers and cold air faces, iron hitching posts, automatic stock fountains, porcelain lined cylinders for wood and iron pumps, iron trimmings for wood pumps, plumbers' supplies and gray iron castings of all kinds. Employment is furnished to about fifty people, and the goods are sold in all parts of the country. Mr. Burleigh's previous experience and training in the business world well qualify him for his present position, which he is now creditably filling. The Novelty Iron Works is one of the oldest manufacturing concerns in the city, and has been successful from the beginning, enjoying a constantly increasing business.

On the 26th of February, 1889, Mr. Burleigh was married to Miss Jessie Alexander, a daughter of Edward and Ada (Hale) Alexander. There are two children of this marriage, Russell A. and Edith. Mr. and Mrs. Burleigh are faithful members of the Congregational church, and are well known socially in the city. Mr. Burleigh has attained high rank in Masonry, belonging to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T.; and is also a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a Noble of Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He likewise holds membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America, and he gives his political support to the republican party. Without special advantages at the outset of his career, he has made good use of his opportunities and through the sterling worth of his character, combined with his skill in business, he has worked his way upward until he is now one of the leading representatives of industrial interests in Sterling.

CHARLES A. DAVIS.

Charles A. Davis, conducting a successful commercial enterprise as a dealer in hardware, stoves and furnaces, at No. 32 West Third street, in Sterling, claims Pennsylvania as the state of his nativity, his birth having occurred in New Holland, Lancaster county, May 13, 1854. His parents were Gabriel and Susanna R. (Diller) Davis, likewise natives of the Keystone state, and that the family was established there at an early day is indicated by the fact that Archibald Douglas Davis, the grandfather of our subject, was also there born. He was of Welsh lineage, devoted his life during his business career to merchandising and died in early manhood, being survived by his wife, Julianna Barton (Anderson) Davis. The maternal grandfather was Jonathan Diller, also a native of Pennsylvania, and of German

lineage. He wedded Ann Weaver and died when past middle life, while his widow lived to be nearly eighty years of age. They were the parents of six children, five of whom reached years of maturity.

Gabriel Davis became a merchant in the east, residing in Pennsylvania until 1856, when he removed westward to Sterling. Here he lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest until his death, which occurred January 26, 1880, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife survived him until October 23, 1907, and had reached the very advanced age of ninety-three years when she passed away. They were both members of the Protestant Episcopal church, but in her later life Mrs. Davis became a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Davis served as senior warden in his church and was deeply interested in all that pertained to the welfare and upbuilding of the community and to the promotion of its material, social, intellectual and moral interests. He served as one of the directors of the public schools of Sterling and was one of the founders of the Wallace school. Unto him and his wife were born seven children, six sons and one daughter, of whom six are now living: William W.; Julianna B.; Gabriel H.; Isaac Newton, deceased; E. Diller; Henry L.; and Charles A.

The last named was reared in Sterling, having been brought to the middle west by his parents when but two years of age. He attended the public schools here, and when he entered business life he took his initial step as a clerk in a hardware store. He thus continued for eight years, during which time he became thoroughly acquainted with the business, and since 1882 he has conducted a hardware store on his own account, carrying a full line of shelf and heavy hardware, stoves and furnaces. He has put forth earnest effort to please his patrons, and his straightforward business methods and unwearied industry constitute the basis of his success. In 1894 he built his present business block at the corner of West Third street and Avenue A. It is a brick structure, two stories and basement, and is one of the substantial business houses of the city.

In September, 1894, occurred the marriage of Charles A. Davis and Mrs. Rebecca J. Mack, the widow of George Mack, and a daughter of William Wilkinson. Mr. and Mrs. Davis belong to the Presbyterian church and the hospitality of the best homes of the city is freely accorded them, while the warm greetings extended in their own home makes it a favorite resort with their many friends.

The name of Charles A. Davis is on the membership rolls of Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F.; and the Knights of the Globe. He is a stalwart republican, and is chairman of the Whiteside county central committee, of which he has been a member for several years. He served for several terms as supervisor and has been urged by his fellow townsmen to become a candidate for the legislature. From its organization he has been a member of the Sterling Club, and he is interested in everything that pertains to the welfare and progress of the city. He was one of the executive committee of six men who planned the fine demonstration in celebration of the opening of the feeder to the Hennepin canal, on the 24th of October, 1907. He has been a resident of this city for more than

half a century, and is one of its best known and most honored men, active in all that pertains to its public life and its commercial interests. His life has been actuated by high principles and honorable purposes, and the sterling qualities of his manhood have made the circle of his friends almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

MARTIN BROTHERS.

The firm of Martin Brothers—David L. and John W.—is well known in Sterling as dealers in real estate and as representative business men of marked energy and enterprise. They stand today as a splendid type of the American citizen who recognizes that there is no royal road to wealth, but that industry, intelligently applied, will bring success. Starting out in life empty-handed, they have achieved a measure of prosperity that is indeed creditable, and at no time has their business career ever presented a narrow phase. On the contrary, their methods are such as will bear close investigation and scrutiny, and their labors have been of the utmost benefit to the city in its substantial upbuilding and adornment.

Noting something of the family history of the Martin Brothers, it is found that their paternal grandfather, David Martin, was a native of Pennsylvania and of German descent. He followed the occupation of farming, living in Martinsburg, Blair county, Pennsylvania, where he died when more than eighty years of age. His wife in her maidenhood was Miss Long, and she, too, was about eighty years of age when called to her final rest. They had a large family of four sons and ten daughters, including John Martin, our subjects' father, who was a native of Pennsylvania. He, too, carried on general agricultural pursuits, and in 1857 came to Illinois, settling at Sterling, where he lived retired, save for the supervision which he gave to his invested interests. He owned a number of farms and displayed remarkable sagacity and enterprise in the purchase and sale of farm property. In early manhood he wedded Catharine Hoover, also a native of the Keystone state and a daughter of Samuel Hoover, likewise born in Pennsylvania but of German descent. Samuel Hoover was a farmer by occupation and in 1855 removed westward to Illinois, establishing his home in Sterling. Soon afterward he began making investments in land in this part of the state and became the owner of several good tracts, together with some city property. He died here in 1859 at the age of sixty-six years. His wife was Mrs. Elizabeth (Sprecher) Hoover. In her family were five sons and five daughters, including Catharine Hoover, who gave her hand in marriage to John Martin. She died in July, 1863, at the age of forty-three years and six months, passing away in the faith of the Methodist church. John Martin, who was a Lutheran in religious belief, survived his wife until May 16, 1896, dying at the age of eighty-two years, one month and twenty-nine days. Unto Mr. and Mrs. John Martin were born seven children, five sons and two daughters, four of whom are now living, the other three having died in infancy: Joseph S.,



John Martin

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Jennie, David L. and John W. The daughter Jennie is the wife of W. M. Dillon.

David L. Martin, the senior partner of the firm of Martin Brothers, was born near Martinsburg, Pennsylvania, in Blair county, September 12, 1849, and was about eight years of age when he came to Illinois with his parents. Here he was reared to manhood and has since lived in Sterling. He attended the public schools and afterward pursued a commercial course in Eastman's Business College. Returning to Sterling, he began work for John H. Snavelly in the furniture business and was in his employ at different intervals for a number of years. Later he engaged in the sewing machine business on his own account, and about 1897 formed a partnership with his brother John for the conduct of a real-estate business, since which time they have engaged in buying and selling property.

John W. Martin was born in Sterling, April 26, 1859, and has spent his entire life here. He attended the public schools until his fifteenth year, and at the age of seventeen he began buying cattle, following that business for some time. Later he was in partnership with S. F. Gleason and they continued together for several years, after which Mr. Martin joined his brother in the real estate business. They have been very successful and now own about two thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Sterling and about one hundred and twenty acres in the city, which has been platted into town lots, besides other lots in all parts of Sterling. They also have about three thousand acres in western states. They buy and sell outright and are conducting an extensive and profitable real-estate business. They have purchased considerable old property, have remodeled business blocks and transformed them into attractive modern buildings. They have laid out several additions to the city, which they have improved in keeping with twentieth century ideas of city development, laying sidewalks, planting trees and doing other work which contributes to the substantial upbuilding and beautifying of the place. In connection with what they have done in Sterling they have laid out an addition in Rock Falls. They have the confidence and high esteem of the citizens of Sterling, and are well known over the country. Their word is good wherever they are known, for in all business dealings they have been thoroughly reliable and straightforward. Moreover, they are energetic men, carrying forward well-defined plans to successful execution.

The Martin brothers take a great interest in the welfare of the city of Sterling, and have spent much money in assisting to beautify, improve and upbuild it. Their public-spirited devotion finds tangible evidence in many public improvements and in stock which they own in various business enterprises. Movements which are projected for the welfare of the city receive their endorsement and cooperation, and their work has been of much value. Their contributions have been most generous toward different public enterprises, and their opinions prove an influential factor in matters of moment to Sterling. They have gained for themselves a most creditable name and place in the business world, and upon realty values their views are largely received as conclusive. But while developing prosperous business, they have never concentrated their energies upon individual concerns to the exclusion

of outside interests, but on the contrary have worked toward the upbuilding of a greater Sterling, generously supporting all that tends to public benefit. Without invidious distinction they may be classed with the foremost citizens of Whiteside county.

HENRY M. DETWEILER.

Henry M. Detweiler, who carries on general farming on section 14, Jordan township, is one of the native sons of Ohio, his birth having occurred in that state on the 26th of October, 1835. He has, therefore, passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey, and his has been an active and honorable career, in which unfaltering diligence has been followed by success.

His parents, Joseph and Mary (Myers) Detweiler, were natives of Bucks county, Pennsylvania. Little is known concerning the ancestral history of the family save that the grandparents of Mr. Detweiler, in both the paternal and maternal lines, were natives of the Keystone state, and the maternal grandfather bore the name of William Myers. It was in 1821 that Joseph Detweiler removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, the journey being made with one four-horse team and one two-horse team, and on reaching his destination he unloaded his goods under a big oak tree in the deep woods. Shortly afterward he purchased three hundred acres of timber land, which he at once began to clear and cultivate. Both he and his wife died in Ohio, where they had long resided as worthy and respected farming people. The only survivors of their family of nine children are Henry M., of this review; and Abraham, who is now residing in Maryland. Those deceased are: William, who died in California; Sarah, who married Louis Yoder and died in Ohio; Samuel and Mary, who both died in that state; Joseph, who died near Freeport, Illinois; Hannah, who married Abraham Blosser and died in Ohio; and Eli, who also died in the Buckeye state.

Under the parental roof Henry M. Detweiler spent his boyhood, and lessons of industry and integrity were early impressed upon his mind. He acquainted himself with the best methods of carrying on the farm work, and thus brought practical experience to his duties when he began farming in this county, coming here from Ohio in 1860.

As a companion and helpmate for life's journey Mr. Detweiler chose Miss Magdalena G. Detweiler, whose parents spent their entire lives in Bucks county, Pennsylvania. She was also born in the Keystone state, and on the 21st of December, 1861, gave her hand in marriage to the subject of this review. Six children have been born to them, all of whom are yet living, namely: William D., who is the owner of a general store in Penrose, Illinois; Eliza J., wife of Martin Book, a farmer of Lee county; Amelia, the wife of Esson Waite, a farmer residing in Jordan township, Whiteside county; Frank, a farmer living across the road from his father; Maggie, the wife of T. H. LeFevre, a farmer living in South Dakota; and Uriah, a telegraph operator at Conrad, Indiana.

When Mr. Detweiler first settled in Jordan township, in 1860, he became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of rich land, which was, however, but slightly improved at that time. Possessing energy and ambition, he resolved to increase his holdings, and after some years added to the original purchase. He is now the owner of three hundred and forty-nine acres, all in one body and constituting one of the finest farms of the county. In its midst stands a comfortable and commodious residence, together with large barns and outbuildings, and everything is kept in a state of good repair. Fences divide the farm into fields of convenient size and the latest improved machinery is used in carrying on the work of the fields. He also has good buildings for his tenants and his farm is one of the model properties of the twentieth century in Whiteside county.

Mr. Detweiler has long been a staunch republican, inflexible in his support of the principles of the party. Mr. Detweiler is numbered among the most respected citizens of Jordan township, for there have been no chapters in his life history that are not worthy of respect and good will. He has endeavored to live peaceably with his fellowmen, to recognize the rights and privileges of others, and as the years have passed he has achieved a measure of success that indicates his unfaltering diligence in business affairs.

H. A. REYNOLDS.

H. A. Reynolds is numbered among the substantial citizens of Whiteside county, owning a valuable property comprising two hundred and thirty-five acres, situated on sections 1 and 2, Mount Pleasant township, which is now being operated by his two sons, M. W. and C. F. Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds was born in Rutland county, Vermont, January 14, 1836, a son of Raymond A. and Nancy B. (Wentworth) Reynolds, who, in 1855, removed from the east to this state, making a settlement in Kane county, where they lived for two years, subsequent to which time they settled in Whiteside county on the farm which is now the home of our subject. In his later years the father retired from agricultural life and removed to Unionville, where his death occurred in 1885, when he had reached the age of seventy-five years, while his wife survived for about two years, passing away in 1887 at about the same age. The father gave his political support to the democratic party, and both he and his wife were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The two daughters of the family are also deceased. Mrs. Clark Fisk, who made her home in Whiteside county throughout a long period had a son, Hon. Charles J. Fisk, who is now a supreme judge of North Dakota, making his home in Grand Forks. The other daughter was Mrs. Almon W. Champlin, whose husband was formerly identified with the agricultural life of Mount Pleasant township, but now resides in Clinton. Their two sons are prominent horse dealers of Clinton.

H. A. Reynolds, the only survivor of his father's family, was reared in Vermont and there acquired his education in the village schools. He also

assisted his father in his blacksmith shop during the period of his youth, but since coming to Whiteside county has always been connected with farming interests. He was very successful in his undertakings, and although his place at first comprised but seventy-five acres, he has increased its boundaries until he now owns two hundred and thirty-five acres, all of which is under a good state of cultivation and is improved with modern and substantial residence and outbuildings. He is now practically living retired, the farm being conducted by his two sons.

Mr. Reynolds was married at his present home to Miss Mary E. Reynolds, the wedding ceremony being performed on the 1st of January, 1862. Mrs. Reynolds was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Philip and Nancy (Fisk) Reynolds, who settled in Whiteside county about the same time that the parents of our subject located here. Unto our subject and his wife have been born three children, but one died in infancy, the surviving members being: Martin W., who wedded Emily C. Hammer, by whom he has a daughter, Edna Mae, and who makes his home with our subject; and Charles F., who was married to Miss Lillie A. James, who died about four years ago, leaving four daughters, Mabel, Pauline, Myrtle and Gladys. For his second wife Charles F. Reynolds chose Mrs. Margaret (Norrish) Houghtaling.

Mr. Reynolds gives his political support to the democratic party where national issues are involved, but at local elections casts an independent ballot. In former years he worked industriously and energetically and his efforts were richly rewarded, so that now, at the age of seventy-two years, he is enabled to live retired in his pleasant country home, surrounded by many warm friends, who esteem him highly for his genuine personal worth.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HENDRICKS.

Benjamin Franklin Hendricks, of Morrison, serving for the third term as county superintendent of schools of Whiteside county, and recognized as one of the able educators of this section of the state, is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Lancaster county in 1851. His father, Ephraim D. Hendricks, was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and was of Holland Dutch lineage. In early life he learned and followed the tailor's trade, and after his removal to Illinois, in 1851, he located on a farm in Sterling township, Whiteside county, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1864. In that year he went to southern Illinois, where he spent a few years as an agriculturist, and afterward again located in Sterling township, where he followed farming until his removal to Kansas. His last days were spent in that state, his death occurring in 1904. He was an energetic farmer and in all of his business dealings was straightforward and reliable, so that he commanded the confidence and trust of his fellow-men to an unusual degree. He held membership in the Reformed Mennonite church. Ephraim Hendricks was united in marriage to Miss Mary Rosenberger, who was of German lineage. She, too, belonged to the Re-

formed Mennonite church, and died in that faith. In their family were five children: Allen R., a druggist of Sterling; Benjamin Franklin, of this review; Jacob R., who passed away early in life; John R., who is a musician residing in Smithville, Arkansas; and Charles R., an agriculturist living near Cawker City, Kansas.

Benjamin F. Hendricks was reared in the usual manner of farm lads and supplemented his early education, acquired in the common schools, by study in the Sterling high school. He began teaching in 1870, when a young man of nineteen years, and has since followed that profession with the exception of one year, which was devoted to rest and recreation. He proved most capable in his work in the schoolroom, imparting clearly, concisely and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired, and in 1877 he received a state certificate. He has been connected with the schools of Sterling, Erie, Rock Falls and Savanna. He is now serving for the fourth term as county superintendent of schools, having first been elected to the office in 1882 for a four years' term and re-elected in 1886. He continued in the office until 1889, when he resigned to accept the superintendency of the schools of Savanna, Illinois, where he remained for eight years, the educational system there receiving marked impetus by reason of his practical and progressive ideas and labors. He then returned to Whiteside county and was re-elected county superintendent in 1902, since which time he has filled the office. He is alert and enterprising, constantly studying out new methods for the benefit of the schools and introducing ideas, the practical utility of which have been proven in the excellent results that have followed.

Professor Hendricks was married in 1876 to Miss Lillian E. Peck, who was born in Portage county, Ohio, in 1854. They had four children: Earl L., a physician of Lanark, Illinois, who is married and has one child; Clyde P., a dentist of Kalkaska, Michigan, also married; Hazel D., who is attending Normal school at DeKalb; and Paul M., twin brother of Hazel, who died when but two years of age. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church, in the work of which they are deeply interested. Fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. In the field of his chosen profession he has made constant progress and has gained a place of distinctive prominence as an educator of this part of the state.

WILLIAM H. SHAW.

William H. Shaw, a farm hand in his early youth, is now conducting a successful business in grain and coal in Lyndon, where he owns and operates a large elevator. He was born in Tioga county, New York, August 21, 1850, but the following year was brought to Lyndon township, Whiteside county, with his parents, Henry B. and Rosina W. (Newton) Shaw. His paternal grandparents were William and Betsy (Talmage) Shaw, natives of Saratoga county, New York, where their entire lives were passed. The

mother was an own cousin of Dr. DeWitt Talmage, the noted divine, and was a daughter of Enos Talmage, who served for seven years in the patriot army in the Revolutionary war. William Shaw had a brother who was judge of the circuit court of Saratoga county, and he was the third in a family of four sons. The eldest brother, Thomas Shaw, had a family of twelve sons and one daughter. The second brother, Robert Shaw, became a resident of New Jersey, and the youngest was William Shaw, grandfather of our subject. All, however, are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. William Shaw were born five children: Lucy, deceased; Elizabeth; William T., who has also passed away; Henry B.; and Mary, deceased.

Henry B. Shaw was born in Tioga county, New York, November 12, 1826, and resided in his native county until 1850, when he came to the middle west and has since resided in Whiteside county. He was reared on a farm and after coming to Illinois purchased and secured land. His father had been a carpenter by trade, and Henry Shaw learned that business under his direction, but following his removal to the west, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land at the bend in Lyndon township. This he improved, but after a time sold eighty acres, and later disposed of the remaining eighty acres. He then again engaged in carpentering. He brought some money with him on his removal from New York, but lost most of his property through the illness of his wife, which brought on heavy expenses. He then took up his trade and was identified with building operations in the county until he enlisted for service in the Civil war, on the 14th of August, 1862, becoming a member of Company B, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He then took part in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and Look-out Mountain. Later he was transferred to the First United States Engineer Corps and saw no more fighting, but did equally valiant service for his country during the succeeding eighteen months. After being with the engineers for about two weeks he was commissioned artificer and continued in that position until the close of the war, being honorably discharged July 3, 1865.

When the country no longer needed his aid at the front Henry B. Shaw returned home and worked at his trade as long as he was able, being a well known representative of building operations in Lyndon and the surrounding districts. His early political support was given to the democracy, but on the organization of the republican party he joined its ranks, and has since supported the candidates at the head of its ticket with two exceptions, when he voted the greenback ticket. He is a valued member of Orson K. Hubbard Post, No. 749, G. A. R. of Lyndon, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His life has been characterized by industry and activity, and in all things he has been guided by honorable principles. He was married on the 7th of February, 1846, to Miss Rosina W. Newton, who was born in Chenango county, New York, February 29, 1828, a daughter of Moses and Mehitabel (Burlingame) Newton, whose family numbered twelve children, all of whom were professional people with the exception of Mrs. Shaw. Mr. Shaw came to this county in 1850, and his wife joined him in 1851. Thus far more than a half century they have resided in the county and have witnessed the greater

part of its development. They have lived together longer than any married couple in Whiteside county, having traveled life's journey as man and wife for sixty-three years. Their family numbered five children: Sophia, now the wife of J. F. Brumbley, of Lyndon; William H., of this review; Ida A., the wife of Jesse Troop, of Sterling; Clair V., who is living in Hume township; and Lily, deceased.

William H. Shaw, whose name introduces this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home, and from an early age has been dependent entirely upon his own resources. When but a boy he began earning his own living by working as a farm hand, his father being away from home as a soldier in the Civil war. William H. Shaw continued his labors in the fields in the employ of others for six years, but was ambitious to engage in farming on his own account and, carefully saving his earnings, at length purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land on sections 17, 19 and 20, Lyndon township. With characteristic energy he began to cultivate and improve the fields, which he brought to a high state of fertility, so that he annually marketed good harvests. In 1890, however, he retired from the farm and took up his abode in Lyndon, where he established his present business as a dealer in grain and coal. The new enterprise proved profitable, and in 1902 he built a large elevator with a capacity of twelve thousand bushels. In addition to his elevator property, he owns several houses and lots and a business building in Lyndon, which stand as monuments to his ability and enterprise and are tangible proof of his unwearied diligence.

In his political views Mr. Shaw is a stalwart republican, and his fellow townsmen have called him to a number of positions of public honor and trust. He has been school treasurer for the past fifteen years, and was assessor of his township for one term. Interested in the moral development of his community, he is an active and faithful member of the Congregational church, in which he is serving as deacon. His fraternal relations are with the Masonic lodge, No. 750, of which he is a past master, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystics. Almost his entire life has been passed in this county, and the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present is an indication that his has been an honorable career, well meriting the confidence and esteem of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

M. H. GLEASON.

M. H. Gleason, who is well known as a raiser of full blooded Hereford cattle and as a successful general agriculturist, who now owns and cultivates two hundred and forty acres of land on sections 25 and 36, Montmorency township, is one of the worthy citizens that the Emerald isle has furnished to Whiteside county. His birth occurred in Ireland on the 24th of March, 1867, and after spending the first thirteen years of his life in his native country he came to America with his mother in 1880. They had heard fa-

avorable reports concerning the opportunities here offered and, attracted thereby, sailed for the United States, becoming residents of Whiteside county. The father and one sister died in Ireland. The mother's death occurred in 1907. In the family are seven living children: T. P., who is now in South Africa; John, a resident of Sterling; J. P., who is living in Seattle, Washington; M. H., of this review; Mary, the wife of James Rourk, of Sterling; W. H., also living in Sterling; and Catherine, the wife of John Daley, whose home is in Freeport, Illinois. One daughter, Nora, is deceased.

M. H. Gleason remained at home with his mother until age proclaimed him a man grown, with all the responsibilities and duties of citizenship. He then started out in life for himself, and the occupation to which he was reared he determined to make his work. He rented a farm for five years, and during that time carefully saved his earnings until he felt justified in making purchase of two hundred and forty acres of land on sections 25 and 36, Montmorency township. He at once began its further development and improvement, and now has a fine farm, well equipped with good buildings and all modern machinery for facilitating the work of the fields. He likewise makes a specialty of raising full blooded Hereford cattle, owning some of the best blooded cattle to be found in the county.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Gleason was married, in 1896, to Miss Anna M. Miller, and unto them were born seven children: Mary Irene, Clarence J., Edward, F. Lester, Walter L., John C. and Howard H. The parents are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Gleason has served as school director for ten years, and believes in providing good educational privileges to equip the young for life's practical and responsible duties. He also filled the office of justice of the peace, and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial. He is not allied with any political party, supporting men and measures rather than a political organization, and standing staunchly in defense of whatever he believes to be for the public welfare.

GEORGE W. CHAMBERLAIN.

George W. Chamberlain was the eldest of four children, the others being farmer and stock-raiser of Lyndon township, passed away on the 3d of May, 1900. He was born in Monterey, Steuben county, New York, January 30, 1835, a son of Jason and Mary (Goodrich) Chamberlain, who were natives of Worcester county, Massachusetts, their early life being spent in Petersham. Reared and married in that state, they afterward went to New York and in 1857 the father arrived in Whiteside county, Illinois, the mother having died in the Empire state. Mr. Chamberlain was married a second time and carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death in 1880.

George W. Chamberlain was the eldest of four children, the others being Mrs. Mary Cole, a resident of Osage, Iowa; Sylvester, who is living at Amboy, Illinois; and Lucy Loring, deceased. Until twenty-one years of age George W. Chamberlain remained in the Empire state and then came alone to the middle west in 1856, being joined the following year by his parents. He



GEORGE W. CHAMBERLAIN

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settled first in Hopkins township, where he resided until 1884, identified with the agricultural interests of this part of the state. In that year he went to South Dakota with his family and settled in McPherson county, where he owned and controlled extensive farming interests, spending twelve years in the northwest. In 1896 he returned to this county and took up his abode in Lyndon township, where he continued to reside until his life's labors were ended in death, on the 4th of May, 1900. He left an estate there of three hundred acres, the farm lying on sections 13 and 14, Lyndon township. While carrying on his farm he made a study of the feeding and raising of cattle and horses and his business interests were carefully and successfully managed.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Chamberlain, his sympathies thoroughly aroused in behalf of the Union, enlisted in August, 1861, as a member of Company A, Thirty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He took part in fourteen important battles and also the siege of Vicksburg. He was never wounded nor in the hospital, but was always found at his post of duty, taking part in long, hard marches as well as in battles, or serving his turn on the lonely picket line. He continued at the front for several months after the cessation of hostilities, being mustered out in December, 1865. He afterward became a member of the Grand Army Post in South Dakota and thus maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades. While living in that section of the country he was also an active factor in political circles. From the time when age conferred upon him the right of franchise he gave unfaltering allegiance to the republican party, and while in the northwest served as president of the board of supervisors of McPherson county, filled other positions and was frequently chosen as a delegate to the party conventions. No trust reposed in him was ever betrayed in the slightest degree. On the contrary he was as loyal in citizenship as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields and was equally faithful to the obligations which devolved upon him.

It was not long after his return from the war that Mr. Chamberlain was married in 1867 to Miss Olive Roe, who was born in Sharon township, Richland county, Ohio, June 22, 1841, and in 1864 came with her parents to Whiteside county, the family home being established in Lyndon township. Mrs. Chamberlain is a daughter of Thomas and Curcurence (Orton) Chamberlain, the former a native of Richland county, Ohio, and the latter of Monroe county, New York. They were married in the Buckeye state and from 1864 continued residents of Whiteside county until called to their final rest, the father at the age of seventy-three years, the mother at the age of sixty-seven. She was of Connecticut parentage, while Mr. Roe's people came from Orange county, New York. His grandfather, Thomas Roe, was a soldier of the American army in the Revolutionary war and, being captured, was sent as a prisoner to England, where he remained for a year. His son Thomas served in the war of 1812 under General William Henry Harrison. Unto Thomas and Curcurence Roe were born four children: Mrs. Chamberlain; Margaret Jane, the wife of Henry Wilser, of Lyndon town-

ship; Oliver O., a resident of Dayton, Washington; and Joseph, who is living in Topeka, Kansas.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain was blessed with a daughter and two sons. The elder son, George Howard, born in Lyndon township, in 1872, is living on the old homestead and Orton Jason is also in the same township. The daughter, Lilly Mary, died at the age of two years. The death of the husband and father occurred May 3, 1900, and the county thereby lost a valued citizen, one who in a substantial measure contributed to the agricultural development of his part of the county. He belonged to that class of men who owe their advancement and success to their own efforts and as the architect of his own fortunes he builded wisely and well.

WILLIAM P. BENSON.

Among the enterprises which have gained for Sterling industrial and commercial prominence is that conducted under the name of the National Manufacturing Company, and as president of this company William P. Benson is widely and favorably known. He was born in Chicago, March 27, 1869, and is of Swedish descent, his ancestors having lived in Sweden for many generations. His paternal grandfather spent his entire life there, reaching the age of about seventy years. His son, John Benson, was born in Sweden, and followed the occupation of farming in that country. Attracted by the excellent business opportunities of the new world, he bade adieu to friends and native country and sailed for the United States in 1866, his destination being Chicago. In that city he followed the cabinet-making trade for a time, but is now a purchasing agent. In 1870 he removed to Sterling, where he resided for twenty-one years, or until 1891, when he returned to the metropolis by the lake, and is still living there. Both he and his wife are members of the Congregational church. Their family numbered four children, a son and three daughters, but Anna, the second daughter, is now deceased. The others are: William P., of this review; and Ida C. and Alma, both of Chicago.

In taking up the personal history of William P. Benson we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known here, for he was only about a year old when brought by his parents to Sterling. When he had attained the usual age he entered the public schools, therein pursuing his studies for seven years. At the early age of thirteen, however, he started out in life on his own account, and whatever success he has since achieved or enjoyed is attributable entirely to his own labors. He began work in the factory of the Novelty Manufacturing Company, and his trustworthiness and capability led to his retention in that service until he was nineteen years of age. He completed his education in the night school.

At the age of nineteen Mr. Benson entered the employ of Lawrence Brothers as bookkeeper, continuing with them in the office and also as traveling salesman, from 1889 until 1901. He then resigned his position and organized the National Manufacturing Company for the purpose of manufacturing builders' hardware. That the enterprise has proved prosperous and

has become one of the foremost industrial interests of Sterling is indicated by the fact that they now employ ninety workmen. They have recently erected a new factory building, their first building having been a two-story structure, fifty by seventy feet. Later they put up additions thereto, and in 1907 they erected a fine brick factory, one hundred by one hundred and seven feet and three stories in height, with a boiler and engine room, forty-six by twenty-six feet. This is in a separate one-story building. Their office building adjoins the factory on the corner of Wallace street and First avenue. They sell their goods in all parts of the United States and Canada, and that the output finds favor with the public is indicated by the large trade they now receive. The officers of the company are: W. P. Benson, president; L. A. Bittorf, secretary; and H. V. Bittorf, vice-president and treasurer. All are men of good business ability and commercial enterprise, and their well directed labors have resulted in most gratifying success.

In 1900 Mr. Benson erected an attractive residence at No. 1007 Pennington avenue, where he and his family now reside. He was married on the 12th of October, 1893, to Miss Alice W. Manning, a daughter of Adam V. and Elizabeth (Hutchison) Manning. They have two sons, Merrill M. and Keith W.

The parents are members of the Congregational church, active and helpful in its work, and Mr. Benson is a member of its prudential committee. Interested in all that tends to elevate mankind and promote the moral progress of the race, he is connected with the Young Men's Christian Association, of which he is now serving as a director. He is likewise a director of the Galt-Brookfield Hospital, and a spirit of benevolence is indicated in his relations with Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; and Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T. His political endorsement is given the republican party. In business life Mr. Benson has won the somewhat hackneyed but altogether expressive title of a self-made man, for from early youth he has depended upon his own resources, his energy and perseverance overcoming obstacles and competition until he is now at the head of an important and profitable industrial enterprise of Sterling.

NATHAN COLE WARNER.

Nathan Cole Warner, a well known and valued resident of Prophetstown, was born in this village January 22, 1856, and has always resided here. He was named after Nathan Cole, a millionaire ex-mayor of St. Louis, and a warm personal friend of his father. A. J. Warner, the grandfather, was a native of Springfield, Massachusetts, born in 1787, and in 1806 he removed to Missouri, which only three years before had been purchased from the French and was still largely inhabited by French settlers. Jabez Warner took up his abode near St. Louis, and during his residence there was prominent in public affairs, serving as probate judge and a sheriff of St. Louis

county. Having in early life learned the cooper's trade he established and successfully conducted an extensive cooperage business in St. Louis, making flour barrels for the mills of that city. When the news of the victory of the Americans over the British at New Orleans, on the 8th of January, 1815, reached St. Louis, Mr. Warner lost his right arm while assisting in firing a salute in celebration of the triumph. He was lieutenant during the second war with England, and with his company made a trip up the Mississippi river to keep the Indians in subjection. During this expedition the captain of the company was wounded and soon afterward died, leaving the troops in command of Lieutenant Warner. In his home county, where he was widely known, Jabez Warner was regarded as a man of clear judgment, of unswerving integrity and great kindness of heart, qualities which won him high and uniform esteem. In 1811 he married Elizabeth Conner, who was born in Clarkston, South Carolina, in 1794. He died in 1847 and was long survived by his wife. Their children were: John H.; Mary E., the wife of Job Dodge; Elias Burchard; Andrew J.; Sarah C., the wife of Silas Sears; Edward B.; Eliza A., the wife of Andrew J. Tuller; Morton P.; and Ellen M., the wife of B. H. Bacon.

Andrew Jackson Warner, the father of our subject, came to this county at the age of fourteen years, in 1837, making the journey with his father, Jabez Warner, on a flat boat. He always remained in this district and became prominent in community affairs. He was engaged in merchandising with Andrew J. Ford from 1849 until 1851, and for several years was part owner of a plow factory and sawmill in Prophetstown. In 1862 he was appointed assistant United States revenue assessor, and in 1865 was promoted to the office of revenue assessor for the third congressional district, retaining the position until 1873. He also filled various township offices, and for several terms was president of the board of trustees of Prophetstown. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, and he was one of the stalwart workers in its ranks. Aside from his commercial interests, he was one of the original promoters of the First National Bank of Prophetstown, and became one of its directors. He likewise engaged in loaning money, and was an extensive property owner here up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was seventy-two years of age. In early manhood he married Elvira Rowe, who died at the age of thirty-five years, and the father afterward married Mrs. Eliza M. Woodard, the widow of Oscar Woodard. Of the five children of his first marriage, two died in infancy, the others being: Florence, the deceased wife of Dr. Mosher; Nathan Cole; and George E., a prosperous farmer living west of Prophetstown. By the second marriage there were two children: Charles J., who is conducting the Citizens' Bank in Prophetstown; and Agnes E., the wife of A. S. Greene, a hardware merchant of Prophetstown.

Nathan Cole Warner entered the public schools at the usual age, and pursued his studies to the age of twenty, when he entered upon his business career, accepting a position as clerk in the First National Bank. He thus served for about two years, after which he removed to his farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 1, Prophetstown township. There he made

his home for eighteen years, carefully conducting the place and bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation. He still retains the ownership of this farm, but in the fall of 1899 again took up his residence in the town, where he began dealing in poultry and ice. He has built up an extensive trade in this connection and the business is increasing, year by year, having from the first proved a profitable enterprise.

In 1879 Mr. Warner was married to Miss H. Euphemia Dias, a native of Indiana, who came to Illinois with her parents about forty years ago. Her father, Edward Dias, died of typhoid fever about two weeks after his arrival here, leaving the children to the care of his widow. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Warner have been born a son and daughter: Harry Jackson, who is a graduate of the Illinois State university, and is now assistant chemist in the employ of the government at Washington, D. C.; and Florence, who is also a graduate of the State University, and is now assistant librarian at the State Agricultural College library in Manhattan, Kansas.

Mr. Warner is now a commissioner of the union special drainage district, comprising the townships of Prophetstown, Tampico and Hume, and also extending into Lee county, embracing over fifty thousand acres in the district. He was re-elected in the fall of 1907 for a second term of three years. In this position he is doing much to drain the bad lands of the county and render the soil fertile and productive. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party, and he has never faltered in his support thereof, for he believes its platform contains the best elements of good government. He represents one of the oldest families of the county, and this alone would entitle him to mention in this volume, but his personal characteristics also make him worthy of a place in the history of his community. He is known as a dependable man in every relation and in emergency. He is eminently a man of business sense, who easily avoids the mistakes and disasters that come to others, and while a man of well-balanced mind, even temper and conservative habit, he is never lacking in that enterprise which leads to the accomplishment of its purpose.

WALTER V. PARKER.

Walter V. Parker, who is one of the successful stockmen in Whiteside county, was born in Garden Plain township, April 19, 1856, his parents being Truman and Emma (James) Parker, who came to this county in 1836, settling in Parker's Grove, in the southeast portion of the county, on section 25. The death of the father occurred April 11, 1887, when he had attained the age of seventy-one years, while his wife died January 30, 1889, at the age of sixty-one years. Their family numbered three children: Ella L., the wife of Perry A. Willis, of Port Byron, Illinois; Walter V., of this review; and Arthur T., of East St. Louis, Illinois.

Walter V. Parker received his education in the schools of his home locality, and when he had attained his majority engaged in farming on his

father's land, at the same time carrying on the business of buying and shipping stock, which he has followed with gratifying success to the present time. He owns two well improved farms in Garden Plain township, aggregating some three hundred acres, and his prosperity has come to him entirely through his well directed labor and enterprise since starting out in life on his own account. He is widely recognized as one of the most successful stockmen of the county, and as a citizen whose business methods have ever been thoroughly honorable, straightforward and reliable.

On the 15th of January, 1884, Mr. Parker was united in marriage to Miss Emma L. Kuapp, a daughter of C. S. and Henrietta (Armstrong) Knapp. The father came here in 1848, and the mother in 1849, being one of the oldest families in the county. The father, whose birth occurred at Mooers, Clinton county, New York, January 4, 1824, passed away in Garden Plain, Whiteside county, Illinois, December 7, 1905, at the age of eighty years and twenty-three days. His wife still survives and, her birth having occurred on the 17th of March, 1828, is now more than eighty years of age. This worthy couple were the parents of five children, namely: Mrs. Parker; Robert, of Sheridan, Illinois; Dr. R. G. Knapp, of Chicago; Charles A., deceased; and Nettie L., at home. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Parker have been born two children: Leslie V., who is engaged with his father in the stock business; and E. Clair, who is attending school.

Mr. Parker gives his allegiance to the republican party, but has not cared to take more than a citizen's interest in the work of the organization, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. However, he held the office of township clerk for a number of years, discharging his duties with promptness and capability. Fraternally he has been identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen since 1882. For fifty-two years, or throughout his entire life, he has lived in Whiteside county, and that many of his stanchest friends are numbered among those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time is indicative of the fact that his has been an honorable and upright career.

He has always lived on the home farm—in three houses, all now standing within three hundred feet of each other. He has never been away from home more than two weeks at a time, giving his attention uninterruptedly to business.

CLARE GATES HARRISON.

The welfare, progress and upbuilding of every community depend upon its industrial and commercial enterprises and the men who control these interests. In this connection Mr. Harrison is well known as the founder and promoter of the Harrison Manufacturing Company, and though yet a young man he has made a creditable and enviable record in business circles.

He was born in Sterling, August 24, 1872, and is a son of William N. and Jennie (Gates) Harrison. The father was born near Corning, New

York, and his father, a resident of the Empire state, lived for many years on his farm near Corning, or until he passed away in middle life. He married a Miss Sands, who was about eighty-two years of age at the time of her demise. They were the parents of three sons and two daughters. The maternal grandfather was William Henry Gates, a native of Vermont, who in early life followed the wagon-maker's trade, and after his removal to the middle west carried on farming near Independence, Iowa, his death there occurring when he was about eighty years of age. His widow, Mrs. Maria (Hyde) Gates, is still living, her home being upon the old farm in Iowa. They had five sons and seven daughters, and the family is of English lineage.

William N. Harrison was reared to agricultural pursuits and carried on farming until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when, in response to the country's need, he enlisted as a member of Company H, Tenth New York Cavalry, with which he served for more than three years. He enlisted as a private, but was mustered out as quartermaster sergeant. He took part in the battles of Gettysburg, Shiloh and a number of other important engagements, and on one occasion was captured by Confederate troops, after which he was incarcerated in Libby prison for several months. He went through all the hardships and horrors of war and proved himself a valiant and loyal soldier. When hostilities had ceased and victory perched upon the Union banners, he went to Elmira, New York, where he began learning the carpenter's trade, following that pursuit until his death. In 1868 he removed westward to Illinois, settling first at Sterling, but soon afterward going to Rock Island Junction. He was there employed as car repairer for the old Galena Air Line, but made his home in Sterling. Two years later he began contracting and building on his own account in this city, and was closely identified with its building operations, erecting many of the substantial structures of the city. He died March 10, 1903, at the age of sixty-six years, and is still survived by his wife, who is a native of Bradford, Vermont. For many years she has been a consistent member of the Congregational church. Their family numbered but two children, the younger being Dale Stuart Harrison.

Clare G. Harrison was reared in his native city and attended the public schools and business college. He was afterward employed for a year and a half in a jewelry store, and then took up his present business, contracting and operating a planing mill under the name of the Harrison Manufacturing Company. In this way he employs from fifteen to thirty people in the conduct of what is one of the old established business enterprises of Sterling, with which Mr. Harrison has been connected since 1897.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Harrison was married on the 10th of December, 1899, to Miss Carrie Kannaka, a daughter of Emanuel and Fredericka (Whalen) Kannaka. Her parents were natives of Germany: her father being a young man of about twenty-one years when he came to the United States, while her mother was a maiden of fourteen years. Mr. Kannaka settled near Buffalo, New York, and throughout his business life has been a shoemaker. Since the spring of 1907, however, he and his wife

have resided in Sterling. They have two children, the son being Edward Kannaka, who is now in the employ of the National Manufacturing Company. The father was twice married, and by his first union had three daughters and one son: Marie, Anna, Ella and Louis.

Mr. Harrison is well known as an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity. He belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T.; and Oriental Consistory of Chicago. He is likewise connected with Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine in the latter city. His wife holds membership in the Episcopal church. Politically he is a republican, and is alderman of the Fourth ward. In political circles he is locally prominent, and his devotion to the public good is manifest in the many tangible ways in which he gives support to progressive movements for the benefit of the city.

WASHINGTON M. DILLON.

It is only under the stimulus of opposition and the pressure of adversity that the best and strongest in men is brought out and developed. The world is fast coming to a realization of the fact that it is not the poor boy but the son of wealthy parents who is deserving of pity. Seldom does the latter make his mark in the world, but the former, when buffeted by fortune, calls forth his latent energies and in many cases comes off victor in the strife for name and fortune. Such has been the career of Washington Moorehead Dillon, who as president and treasurer of the Northwestern Barb Wire Company, is accounted one of the most prominent of Sterling's successful business men.

Born in Zanesville, Ohio, on the 2d of July, 1842, he was the fourth in order of birth in a family of five children, whose parents were Loyd and Margaret Annauche (Culbertson) Dillon. The great-grandfather, Moses Dillon, spent his entire life in England. The paternal grandfather, John Dillon, was a native of England and of French Huguenot stock. Emigrating to America, he became interested in the shipping business between Baltimore and the West Indies and owned a number of vessels which were destroyed by the French privateers. In this enterprise he was in partnership with his son Loyd. He became a Friend or Quaker in religious faith and died in Zanesville, Ohio, at an advanced age. He married Miss Edith Hussey, who died in middle life. Her ancestry could be traced back in the maternal line to the Griffiths, the last king of Wales. Unto John and Edith (Hussey) Dillon were born a large family, Loyd being their eldest child.

Loyd Dillon was born in Maryland and for many years was interested in the shipping business in partnership with his father. After their vessels were destroyed by the French privateers they removed to Zanesville, Ohio, and engaged in the iron business at Dillon's Falls on the Licking river, three miles above Zanesville. The business was there conducted successfully for many years, but the father died in 1845 at the comparatively early age of



Washington. W. Keillon

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forty-two years. In early manhood he wedded Margaret Annauche Culbertson, a daughter of William Culbertson, a native of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, who followed the occupation of farming, and died at an advanced age. His wife, Mary Sharpe, passed away in early womanhood. They had two children, Mary Jane and Margaret Annauche. The latter was born in Ohio and by her first marriage to Loyd Dillon became the mother of two daughters and three sons: Ellen, deceased; Mary Price, the deceased wife of Dr. D. H. Law; Loyd Haynes, who lived in Sterling, but has now passed away; Washington M., of this review; and Moses Dillon, now of Boston, Massachusetts. The last named came to Sterling many years ago and was prominently connected with its business interests as a dealer in groceries, lumber and coal and as owner of an elevator. Here he resided until 1905, since which time he has made his home in Boston, but still has business interests here, being proprietor of lumber and coal yards and of an elevator, his commercial interests at this point being managed by Frank Grimes. After losing her first husband Mrs. Loyd Dillon became the wife of R. P. Robinson, and to them was born a son, George Mathiott Robinson, who is now president of the Charters Gas Engine Company of Sterling. Mrs. Robinson, who was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church and a lady of many estimable qualities, died June 2, 1881, at the age of sixty-eight years, while Mr. Robinson passed away when about sixty years of age. He was a hardware merchant of Zanesville, Ohio, and afterward of Dixon, Illinois, and subsequently engaged in the agricultural implement business.

Washington M. Dillon lived in Ohio until 1856, covering the first fourteen years of his life, and during that time attended the public schools. He afterward worked on a farm for his uncle at Zaleski, Ohio, and completed his education in the Ohio University at Athens. He was a young man of twenty-two years, when, in 1864, he responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the one hundred days' service. He continued at the front until the expiration of his term and after the war began clerking in the banking house of Culver, Penn & Company, at Nos. 19 and 21 Nassau street, New York, where he remained for several years. Removing to St. Louis, Missouri, he was there engaged in the newspaper business and subsequently took up his abode at Dixon, Illinois, where he clerked in a dry-goods store for a few months, after which he opened a grocery and queens-ware business.

Four years later he came to Sterling, where he has lived since 1869. Here he entered into partnership with W. C. Robinson in the ownership and conduct of a hardware and agricultural implement business, which they carried on for nine or ten years. He then organized the Northwestern Barb Wire Company, which he has since conducted and of which he was vice president and is now president and treasurer, while A. H. Dillon is secretary and vice president, and Paul Washington Dillon superintendent. The company manufactures barb wire, fencing, gates, nails, stretchers, etc. Their goods are sold extensively throughout the west and employment is furnished to from forty to fifty people. Their factory is located at Rock Falls, is built

of stone taken from the bottom of Rock river and is three stories in height, and their output has become extensive, this proving one of the profitable productive industries of the county. Mr. Dillon was also one of the organizers and president of the Dillon-Griswold Wire Company, which was formed in 1892. He is still largely interested in this concern, which is on the Sterling side of the Rock river and which has employed as many as three hundred men at a time.

On the 8th of May, 1873, occurred the marriage of Washington M. Dillon and Miss Sarah J. Martin, a daughter of John and Catherine (Hoover) Martin. There are four children of that union, Mary Catharine, Margaret Annauche, John Martin and Paul Washington. The elder daughter is the wife of Daniel Pierce Wild, a resident of Sycamore, Illinois, and they have three daughters, Margaret Dillon, Sarah Pauline and Catharine Virginia. The elder son is a practicing physician of Chicago, while the younger son is superintendent of the Northwestern Wire Works. He married Miss Crete Blackman and they have two daughters, Crete Blackman and Margaret Jane. The son-in-law, Daniel Pierce Wild, is connected with the financial interest of Sycamore, being vice president of the Pierce Trust & Savings Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Dillon are devoted members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Dillon belongs to Will Robinson Post, G. A. R. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, but he has neither time nor inclination for office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his extensive business affairs. His beautiful home, known as Oaklawn, embraces six acres of ground, in the midst of which stands a fine residence. In his business life he has been watchful of opportunity and through the improvement of the advantages that have come to him he has gradually advanced to a prominent place in industrial circles, belonging also to that class of representative business men who, while promoting individual prosperity, also contribute to the general welfare.

FREDERICK WOESSNER, JR.

Frederick Woessner, Jr., is engaged in the cultivation of a farm of two hundred and thirty acres in Genesee township belonging to his father. He is a wide-awake, alert and energetic young business man, whom Whiteside county is glad to number among her native sons. He was born on the old family homestead here May 27, 1878, and, as the name indicates, is of German lineage. His parents, Frederick and Christina (Mutchler) Woessner, were both natives of Germany, and in early life came to the United States. Although the father began his business career as a farm hand, he is now the owner of two fine farm properties in Jordan and Genesee townships. His life has been one of unremitting activity and well directed effort, and upon these qualities he has builded the success which now makes him one of the substantial citizens of his community. Both he and his wife are yet residents of Jordan township. In the family of this worthy couple were ten children,

namely: William, of Whiteside county; Frederick, of this review; Frank and John, both deceased; George, likewise of this county; Kate, the wife of John Holacher, of Whiteside county; Minnie, who became the wife of Charles Faulker, and resides in this county; Lizzie, at home; Emma, who has passed away; and Anna, also at home.

Frederick Woessner attended the public schools in early youth and remained with his parents until he attained his majority. During the summer months he worked in the fields until the task of plowing, planting and harvesting became familiar to him, and thus, with practical experience, he entered upon agricultural pursuits as a life work when, on attaining his majority, he started in business on his own account by renting one of his father's farms. The place comprises two hundred and thirty acres of rich and productive land in Genesee township, the soil responding readily to the care and cultivation which he bestows upon it, the early spring planting being followed by the golden harvests of autumn.

In 1900 Mr. Woessner was married to Miss Mary Johnson, a native of Whiteside county, whose parents are residents of Sterling. This union has been blessed with four children: Olive C., Eveline A., Ada M. and Ruth M. The parents are members of the German Lutheran church, and are interested in the church work and other movements which are for the benefit of mankind or the promotion of the interests of the county. Mr. Woessner exercises his right of franchise in support of the republican party, and keeps well informed on the questions of the day, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business, knowing that close and unrelaxing industry, guided by sound judgment, will eventually win the success which is the goal of his hopes.

ALLEN N. BRADFORD.

Rock Falls is pre-eminently an industrial center, and is brought into close contact with the outside world through its trade relations, as it sends its manufactured products into various parts of the country. Mr. Bradford is a well known representative of industrial life here, as manager of the Russell, Burdsall & Ward Bolt & Nut Company, in which connection his expert mechanical ability and knowledge are brought into constant play.

He was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts, April 3, 1873, being the elder of two children of Allen and Lydia (Nye) Bradford, his sister being Lydia Drew Bradford. He is a direct descendant in the seventh generation from Governor William Bradford, who came over in the Mayflower in 1620 and was chosen executive head of the Plymouth colony. His grandfather, David Bradford, who was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts, April 29, 1796, died July 22, 1860. A rolling mill and nail factory at Chiltonville, now a part of Plymouth, began operation there in 1827, and soon afterward David Bradford became superintendent and was thus closely associated with the industrial interests of the town. He was the inventor of

a nail machine of considerable merit, and was widely known for his skill and ability in his chosen field of labor. Allen Bradford, father of our subject, was born in Plymouth, August 17, 1837, and departed this life April 26, 1876. At the time of his death he was superintendent of the tack department of the Cobb & Drews factory. His widow still survives him and is yet a resident of Plymouth. Her father, Captain Gorham H. Nye, was born at Nantucket, Massachusetts, April 25, 1803, and died on the 31st of October, 1878. He was a sea captain and made many voyages to the Sandwich Islands and was a trader on the coast of Oregon. At the time that gold was discovered in California in 1848, he was in that state. His daughter, Lydia G. Nye, was born in Honolulu, on the Sandwich Islands, January 30, 1844.

Allen N. Bradford, reared in the place of his nativity, entered the public schools at the usual age, and as he mastered the various branches of learning passed from grade to grade until he completed the high school course by graduation. His literary training completed, he entered upon his business career in the employ of Cobb & Drew, manufacturers of rivets, tacks and nails, at their main factory in Plymouth. In 1896 he came to Rock Falls and took charge of their plant there, which at that time occupied a part of the Lawrence Brothers' building. In the year 1901 the company erected a wire mill on land leased from the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, for drawing their own wire, and in 1903 erected a large plant for the manufacture of rivets, bolts and nuts, which contains sixty thousand square feet of floor space, being in part two stories high, and the remainder three stories high. Employment is given to one hundred skilled workmen. The firm of Cobb & Drew carried on business until 1907, when they sold their Rock Falls plant to the Russell, Burdsall & Ward Bolt & Nut Company, which is the style of the present firm. The product of this plant is sold throughout the west and they have sales offices in the Commercial National Bank building of Chicago. Mr. Bradford, because of his practical knowledge of the business, is well qualified for the onerous and responsible duties which devolve upon him as manager of the factory, and the success of the enterprise is due in no small degree to his well directed efforts.

In his social relations Mr. Bradford is a Mason, and has attained high rank in the order, belonging to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; and Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T. He is also a valued member of the Sterling Club and has gained much social popularity during his residence in this city.

HARRY ECKLES BURKHOLDER.

The history of a community has long since ceased to be a record of war and conquest. It is the account of its business development, the utilization of its natural resources and the establishment of those institutions which indicate the onward march of civilization. Now associated with commercial activity in Sterling is Harry Eckles Burkholder, one of the native sons of the city, who is successfully dealing in farm implements, buggies and wagons.

He was born on the 5th of December, 1877, being one of the seven children of Christian and Mary (Irvine) Burkholder, natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and of Illinois, respectively. The paternal grandfather, Elias Burkholder, was also born in the Keystone state, and was of German descent. In early life he followed general farming in Pennsylvania, but afterward engaged in buying cattle in Whiteside county for many years, becoming one of the enterprising and leading business men of this part of the state. He died in the spring of 1907 at the advanced age of eighty-four years, and thus passed away one of the respected and worthy residents of the community. His wife, Mrs. Maria (Blair) Burkholder, still survives.

Their family of four children included Christian Burkholder, who was brought by his parents to Illinois during his boyhood days, in 1859, and settled at Sterling, where he acquired his early education, continuing his studies at Mount Morris, Illinois. He has now lived in Whiteside county for almost a half century. In his youth he worked on the farm with his father, and early became inured to hard labor, such as falls to the lot of the pioneer in the development of farms on the frontier. He afterward accepted the position of bookkeeper with H. S. Street in the implement business, and eventually became Mr. Street's successor. He prospered as a merchant and erected a large brick building, where he has now conducted business for thirty years, being one of the most reliable and best known business men of the city. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church. He stands for progressive citizenship and his efforts in behalf of municipal interests have been far-reaching and beneficial. He was mayor of Sterling for two terms, and discharged the duties of the office in a prompt and business-like way that produced results favorable to the best interests of the city. Prior to his service as mayor he was alderman for several terms, and for a number of years has been president of the consolidated school board, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. He was also a member of the republican central committee for several years, and his opinions have carried weight in the councils of the party.

Christian Burkholder wedded Mary Irvine, a daughter of Joseph Irvine, one of the early settlers of Illinois and a farmer who for many years tilled the soil, but finally retired from active life and removed to Rockford, where he died at an advanced age, having long survived his wife. There were three children of the first marriage, and later he married again, having also three children by that union. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burkholder have been born four sons and three daughters, of whom five are yet living: Charley, who makes his home in Charlotte, North Carolina; Charlotte, the wife of Harvey Keefer, of Sterling; Homer S., residing in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Harry E., a twin brother of Homer, who lives in Sterling; and Alice, the wife of E. B. Scott, of West Haven, Connecticut.

Harry E. Burkholder was reared in Sterling, and when he had mastered the branches of learning taught in the public schools he prepared specially for the practical and responsible duties of business life by a course in a commercial college in Quincy. He then joined his father in business, becoming familiar with the implement trade, and is now his father's successor. For

five years he traveled upon the road as a salesman, and is now controlling an extensive patronage in Sterling in farm implements, buggies and wagons. He carries the output of standard manufactories, and his earnest desire to please his patrons, combined with reliable business methods, have won for him desirable success.

On the 12th of September, 1900, Mr. Burkholder married Miss Frances Louise Bowman, a daughter of Edward and Maria (Adams) Bowman, who came to this county at an early day and here reared their family of five children. Mr. and Mrs. Burkholder are members of the Congregational church and are prominent socially, the hospitality of the best homes of the city being cordially extended them. Mr. Burkholder votes with the republican party, but the demands of growing business leave him little time for activity in public affairs.

C. F. RIBORDY.

C. F. Ribordy, who has devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits, has gained a prosperity which comes as the direct reward of earnest, persistent labor, intelligently applied. A valuable property of four hundred and thirty-two acres now pays tribute to him, and he also derives a good income from his stock-raising interests. His life record began in LaSalle county, Illinois, on the 14th of July, 1866, his parents being Ferdinand and Louisa (Pellouchoud) Ribordy, who were natives of Switzerland and came to America in the early '40s. They settled in LaSalle county, Illinois, where the father secured land from the government, converting this raw tract into well cultivated fields. There he carried on farming until the time of the Civil war, when, feeling that his first duty was to his adopted country, and being imbued with the liberty-loving spirit so characteristic of the Swiss race, he joined the army as a member of the Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry and served for three years. After the close of the war, in which he did his full duty as a soldier, he returned to LaSalle county, and soon after removed to Livingston county, where he purchased two hundred acres of good farm land. From that time until 1892 he was busily and successfully engaged in the work of cultivating the fields and caring for the crops. He then retired from active business and removed to Dwight, where his remaining days were passed in the enjoyment of well earned rest, his death occurring in 1903. His wife died in 1892. Their family numbered four children, namely: C. F. Ribordy; Pauline, a resident of Kempton, Illinois; and Joseph and William, who are living in Ford county, this state.

At the usual age C. F. Ribordy became a pupil in the public school near his father's home, and completed his education in the Sugar Grove school. When not occupied with his text-books his time was largely given to the work of the fields and year after year he assisted in plowing, planting and harvesting, until he gained comprehensive knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He continued on the old homestead farm

until twenty-seven years of age, when he was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Lyons, who was born in Livingston county, Illinois, in 1867. Her father is still residing there, but the mother is now deceased. Their family numbered eleven children, and unto Mr. and Mrs. Ribordy were born the following children: Louisa, Isabelle, Florence, Beatrice, Raymond and Genevieve Catherine. Mrs. Ribordy died on the 27th of January, 1908.

Following his marriage Mr. Ribordy rented his father's farm, which he cultivated for six years. His careful control of expenses and his unfaltering industry brought him a goodly measure of success, and he bought land in Lee county, upon which he lived for five years, when he sold that property. He next invested in two hundred and sixty acres of land on section 12, Montmorency township, where he now makes his home. He has since added to his holdings, however, until his possessions aggregate four hundred and thirty-two acres in Whiteside and Lee counties. His farm property is valuable, owing to the care and labor he has bestowed upon it, and to the substantial improvements that have been made. He is engaged in the raising of short-horn cattle and Shropshire sheep, and this branch of his business claims much of his attention and brings him a good profit. In politics Mr. Ribordy is a republican, but while neither seeking nor desiring office, he has served as school treasurer. He and his wife are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of Sterling. Mr. Ribordy displays many of the strong and salient characteristics of his Swiss ancestry, and in his business life has manifested a strength of purpose that has never permitted him to turn back from any work that he has undertaken, but has always permitted his faithful execution of the same. Year after year he has worked on, and his labors have brought him a gratifying measure of success.

EUGENE P. SULLIVAN, M. D.

Dr. Eugene P. Sullivan is engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Morrison. His life record began in Madison, Wisconsin, on the 31st of October, 1873. His father, Cornelius Sullivan, a native of Ireland, is now living in Chicago, Illinois, at the age of fifty-nine years. He came to the United States about 1858, and for a time resided in New York, after which he removed westward to Wisconsin, where he engaged in business as a railroad contractor. This work took him from one state to another, but for the past ten years he has made his home in Chicago. He has been quite successful in his business undertakings, and though he started out in life empty-handed, he is now in possession of a comfortable competency. In politics he is a republican, and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church. In early manhood he wedded Katherine Galligher, who was born on the Emerald isle, and is now living at the age of fifty-six years. She came to the United States, with her parents, about 1858, and the family home was established in Madison, Wisconsin. She holds membership with the Episcopal church. By her marriage she became the mother of two sons, the younger being Samuel, a practicing physician of Chicago.

Dr. Eugene P. Sullivan, the elder son, was educated in the public schools of his native city, passing through successive grades until he was graduated from the high school there. He afterward pursued a pre-medical course in the University of Wisconsin, and in 1895 entered Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1899. The following year he began practice in Malvern, Illinois, where he remained until 1902, when he came to Morrison, where for six years he has practiced, meeting with a fair measure of success.

In 1897 Dr. Sullivan was married to Miss Laura Gertrude Ennis, who was born in Chicago in 1875. They have four children: Samuel, Eugenie, Lawrence and Lorna. The parents are communicants of the Catholic church and Dr. Sullivan is a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystic Workers of the World. He belongs to the Whiteside County, the State, the American and the Northern Central Medical Associations. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, but he has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his professional duties, which are performed with a sense of conscientious obligation.

GEORGE P. RICHMOND.

Almost six decades have passed since George P. Richmond located in Whiteside county and cast in his lot with its early pioneer settlers, so that no history of the county would be complete without mention of him. He is also one of the largest landowners and stock-raisers of this section of the state, being in possession of nineteen hundred acres, all in Whiteside county and of this amount he operates nine hundred acres.

Mr. Richmond was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, October 24, 1827, a son of John and Clara (Parker) Richmond, who were likewise natives of the old Bay state, where they spent their entire lives. Their family numbered three sons and one daughter, namely: John, who resided in Massachusetts, but is now deceased; Mary, who resides in Connecticut; George P., of this review; and Rufus P., deceased.

George P. Richmond was a little lad of eleven years when he lost his parents, so that he was early thrown upon his own resources. He acquired his education in the common schools of the east, wherein he obtained a fair knowledge of the English branches. After the death of his parents he went to live with an uncle, with whom he remained until he had attained his majority. At that time, in the year 1849, he started for Illinois, hoping that in the west he might find better advantages than could be enjoyed in the older east. Accordingly he made his way by water to Chicago and in that city purchased a horse, which he rode to Whiteside county. Here he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government, this tract being located on section 26, Prophetstown township. He still owns his first purchase. He at once began to develop and improve the land and in due course



Gen P Richmond

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of time had it in a good state of fertility. The following year he purchased ninety-one acres more, and also improved this. Since that time as his financial condition has permitted he has added to his landed possessions until he now owns nearly nineteen hundred acres, all in Prophetstown township. He has under his personal supervision nine hundred acres of this, while the balance he rents, so that he is numbered among the largest landowners of this section of Illinois. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, he devotes much of his land to pasturage, for since 1857 he has made a specialty of raising and feeding cattle and hogs, being extensively engaged in this business, shipping from two to three hundred cattle each year. For the past twenty-five years he has also engaged in raising horses, handling Hambletonian stock, and this also adds materially to his annual income. He is a man of excellent business ability and sound judgment and this has proved the foundation of his splendid success.

On the 22d of February, 1860, Mr. Richmond was united in marriage to Miss Sevilla Gage, who was born in Whiteside county, while her parents were natives of Vermont. She became the mother of two sons and a daughter: John, who lives on the homestead farm; Mrs. Mary Passmore, a resident of Iowa; and Harry, at home. The wife and mother, however, is deceased, her death occurring April 18, 1879.

Mr. Richmond has always given stanch support to the republican party and has filled the offices of school director and assessor. When Mr. Richmond located in Whiteside county it was still inhabited by the red men, few white settlers having as yet ventured into the wild region to establish homes. Deer and wolves were still found roaming over the prairies and through the forests and wild game was to be had in abundance. There was little to encourage him when he first came, but he possessed a courageous spirit and resolved to endure the hardships and privations which are always to be met in a frontier district. In the six decades which have since come and gone he has not only seen Whiteside county grow from a wild country, with only a few white inhabitants, to a rich agricultural district, containing thousands of good homes and growing towns inhabited by an industrious, prosperous and progressive people, but he has participated in the slow, persistent work of development which was necessary to produce this great change, and now at the age of four score years he is supplied with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life and is numbered among the venerable and highly respected pioneer settlers of his section of the state.

ALFRED P. PORTER.

Alfred P. Porter is one of the extensive land owners of Whiteside county and is well known as a real-estate dealer, having in charge the rental of various properties and also conducting a loan business. The enterprising spirit of the successful business man is his. Born in Dixon, Illinois, on the 16th of April, 1858, he is a son of James and Paulina (Bowman) Porter, who were

natives of the Empire state, born about ten miles from Buffalo and near the Niagara Falls.

The father, a farmer by occupation, came to Illinois in 1846, settling at Dixon, where he engaged in business as a contractor. He also followed teaming until 1859 and at an early date hauled grain from Dixon to Chicago by wagon. The country, then largely uncultivated and undrained, could not boast of excellent highways. On the contrary, Mr. Porter frequently became stuck in the mud and had to carry the load out of the mire upon his back, the grain being loaded in sacks. After taking his wheat to Chicago he would trade it for produce and on the return trip would haul produce for his neighbors and also goods for the merchants of Dixon. The present generation can never know, except through hearsay and history, of the hardships endured by the early pioneers. It was not only the men of the family but the women as well who met difficulties and obstacles in the building of the homes on the frontier. Theirs was a lot of patient toil as they performed the work of the household, usually not only preparing the meals and doing other such tasks but also supplying the family with clothing. There was, however, much enjoyment in the life and the people were usually happy and contented. The spirit of hospitality reigned supreme and mutual helpfulness was manifest throughout the pioneer neighborhoods. On leaving Dixon in 1859, James Porter removed to Harmon, Lee county, Illinois, being the third or fourth settler in his township. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits until a year prior to his death, when he removed to the village of Harmon, where he died in 1880, when about sixty-six years of age. His wife survived him until January 4, 1900, passing away at the age of eighty-two years, four months and eight days, her birth having occurred August 27, 1818. They were Methodists in religious faith and were loyal Christian people, true to the teachings of the church. Mr. Porter held various township offices, being at different times supervisor, assessor and collector. In politics he was a republican and prominent in the ranks of the party. His family numbered four sons and four daughters but only three are now living: Cytheria M., of Sterling; Gula, the wife of G. W. Hill, of Dixon, Illinois; and Alfred P., of Sterling.

The history of the family can be traced back to a more remote period. James Porter, the grandfather of our subject, lived in New York, near Buffalo, for many years, conducting a tavern on the plank road at an early day and also carrying on a farm there. He died when about fifty-two years of age, while his wife, Mrs. Phoebe (Fairchild) Porter, lived to be eighty-four years of age. They had a large family. The Porters were of Irish descent. The maternal grandfather was Benjamin Bowman, a native of Pennsylvania, whence he removed to New York, settling near Buffalo. He was quite a prominent man and founded the city of Bowmansville, which was named in his honor. There he extensively engaged in farming and also conducted a gristmill, a store and a blacksmith shop. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Polly (Snively) Bowman, lived to be quite aged. Their family numbered two sons and eight daughters.

Alfred P. Porter was only about a year old when his parents removed to Lee county. He was reared on his father's farm, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and upon the old

homestead property he remained until 1902. For seven years he owned the homestead, which he purchased and which contained one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land situated in Harmon township. His educational privileges were those afforded by the common schools. In his business life he early manifested keen discernment and marked enterprise, and those qualities have been the salient elements in his success. In 1902 he took up his abode in Sterling, where he began operating in real estate and still continues in this line, doing business also in making rentals and loans. He buys and sells on his own account and is now one of the extensive landowners of this part of the state. In addition to handling his own property he also sells on commission and has negotiated many important realty transfers.

On the 4th of February, 1880, Mr. Porter was united in marriage to Miss Jemima D. Keith, a daughter of George and Ann (Eddy) Keith. Six children were born of that union: Ferris E., Lula E., Wayne H., Erma Z., Undine and Thelma Ann. The oldest child, Ferris, died August 5, 1899, at the age of sixteen years, and Wayne passed away at the age of six years. The oldest daughter, Lula, is the wife of T. E. Purcell, a resident of Billings county, North Dakota, and they have two children, Wayne H., and Ina. The younger daughters, Erma, Undine and Thelma, are at home. The wife and mother died February 22, 1902, at the age of forty-two years and four months, passing away in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. She was of Scotch lineage, her parents having been born in Scotland. They became residents of Rockford, Illinois, about 1837 and engaged in farming in that locality. About 1861 they removed to a farm near Marion, Lee county, and upon that place the mother died, after which the father removed to Nebraska, where he spent his remaining days. In their family were four sons and four daughters.

In his political views Mr. Porter is a republican and in Lee county held some minor township offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. Since coming to Sterling, however, he has concentrated his energies upon his business affairs and has met with excellent success in his undertakings. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution, while his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the high degree of prosperity which is today his.

ISAAC S. BRESSLER.

Isaac S. Bressler, whose capably directed labor has gained him a place among the men of affluence in Jordan township, lives on section 34, where he is now successfully carrying on general farming. He is one of Whiteside county's native sons, born August 23, 1851, a son of Henry Bressler, well known and honored as one of the pioneer residents of this part of the state. He attended the common schools until sixteen years of age and afterward had the benefit of a few terms instruction in Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa. After leaving college he returned to his native county and from his

grandfather, Isaac Bressler, rented a farm located on section 35, Jordan township. With characteristic energy he began its development and his labors were soon manifest in the improved condition of the fields.

While on the old Bressler farm, Isaac S. Bressler was married to Miss Delora E. Brewer, a daughter of George W. Brewer, of Sterling. She was born December 14, 1851, in the city of Sterling and comes from sturdy old New England ancestry, her parents removing, however, from the state of New York to the west. George W. Brewer has made his home in Whiteside county since 1837 and is therefore one of its oldest residents. He was born near Cooperstown, Otsego county, New York, May 6, 1827, and was descended from Revolutionary ancestry, his paternal grandfather having been a soldier of the American army in the war for independence. His father, Henry Brewer, was a wagonmaker by trade and in 1836 made a prospecting trip to the middle west. The following year he started with his family for Whiteside county, Illinois, going down the Allegheny and Ohio rivers on a lumber raft. From Louisville he proceeded by steamboat to St. Louis and from that point came to Whiteside county. He assisted in building a number of the first houses of the county and his family was among the first to establish a home in this part of the state. He afterward built and conducted a wagon shop and was thus one of the earliest representatives of industrial interests in Whiteside county. He died February 27, 1848, while his wife passed away January 6, 1867. Their son, George W. Brewer, father of Mrs. Bressler, is the only survivor of a family of nine children. He has lived continuously in this county for more than seventy years and in early life worked at the wagonmaker's trade. Later he turned his attention to farming, which he followed for a long period, and later gave his attention to the purchase and sale of land. Acquiring, as the years passed by, a handsome competence, he is now living retired in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He was married March 4, 1851, to Elizabeth S. Green and they became the parents of four sons and six daughters, of whom Mrs. Bressler is the oldest surviving. Extended mention is made of George W. Brewer on another page of this work.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bressler have been born three children: Fred Nelson, born September 12, 1876, married Miss Ray Zella Lamar, of Chicago, a daughter of Raymond Lamar, a photographer of that city. This marriage was celebrated in 1900 and unto Mr. and Mrs. Fred N. Bressler have been born three children: Gladys, born June 30, 1901; Burton, deceased; and Edward, born November 19, 1907. Fred N. Bressler is a graduate of the country schools and further continued his studies in the high school and business college, being graduated from the latter with honors. At present he is identified with commercial interests in Sterling. George B. Bressler, the second son, born December 21, 1880, after attending the common schools pursued his education in the high school and business college of Sterling. In 1903 he went to Chicago, where he has since resided, and at present occupies a responsible position with Crane & Company, of that city. He was married in 1905 to Miss Dot Lee, of Chicago. Carrie E., born December 1, 1887, began her education in the district schools and afterward took up the study of music in Sterling. In 1907 she gave her hand in marriage to Frank L. Weatherwax,

of Milledgeville, Carroll county, Illinois, a son of Thomas Weatherwax, deceased, an old settler of Carroll county. Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Weatherwax are now living on her father's farm on section 35, Jordan township.

Isaac S. Bressler became the owner of his present farm in 1883. He has always lived the life of an enterprising, active and energetic agriculturist and his labors are attended with a measure of success which has gained him place among the men of affluence in his county. His farm is a well developed property, in the midst of which stand substantial buildings, while everything about the place is indicative of the careful supervision and practical methods of the owner. He is widely known as a reliable business man and trustworthy citizen and has an extensive circle of friends in the county in which his entire life has been passed.

CAPTAIN JOHN W. NILES.

Captain John W. Niles is very prominent in Masonic circles, and is well known in Sterling as justice of the peace and notary public, his official service being characterized by the utmost fairness and impartiality in the discharge of his duties. He was born in Lebanon, New York, November 11, 1830, and was one of the eight children of Captain John and Sarah (Moseley) Niles, natives of Madison county, New York. The paternal grandfather, who was also Captain John Miles, won his title by service with the New York militia. He was a farmer by occupation, and also speculated in and raised hops. He died in Madison county, New York, when about seventy years of age, his remains being interred at Lebanon. His wife, Mrs. Lydia (Bryant) Niles, was a relative of the famous poet, William Cullen Bryant, and she had two brothers who were valiant soldiers of the American army in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Niles was more than seventy years of age at the time of her death. By her marriage she had three sons, Harvey and Luther, who were in the war of 1812, and Captain John. The ancestry of the family can be traced still further back, for Captain John Niles, the grandfather, was the son of Nahum Niles, a native of Massachusetts, of English descent. He was a Presbyterian minister, and in his old age went to Madison county, New York, to live with his children, passing away there when well advanced in years. In early manhood he married Susanna Cole, whose brother, Samuel Cole, was killed by the Indians long prior to the Revolutionary war, when the red men inhabited that section of the country.

The maternal grandfather of Captain Niles, of Sterling, was Araunah Moseley, a native of western Massachusetts, born near Hoosac. He followed agricultural pursuits as a source of livelihood, and in early manhood wedded Sarah Shapley, by whom he had nine children, their daughter Sarah, who became Mrs. Niles, being the eldest. Araunah Moseley died in Lebanon, New York, at the very venerable age of ninety-three years, while his wife passed away in middle life. He was the son of Peabody Moseley, who took his younger children to the Shaker settlement in New York and there reared

them. His son, Araunah, although not of the Shaker faith, won his wife from among that sect and eloped with her.

Captain John Niles, father of our subject, followed the occupation of farming throughout his entire business career. In 1855 he made his way westward to Iowa and settled in Jones county. After the Civil war he removed to Sterling, where he died in 1882, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife survived him two years, and died at the age of eighty-two. Both were consistent members of the Baptist church and earnest Christian people. As a member of the New York Militia he commanded a company, thereby gaining the military title by which he was uniformly known. He filled the office of justice of the peace in the Empire state, and later in Iowa, and took an active interest in politics. Unto him and his wife were born four sons and four daughters, and of the family five are now living, namely: Sarah S., the widow of David D. Jewett, and a resident of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; John W.; Harvey, living at Anamosa, Iowa; Anna H., the wife of Calvert Hartshorn, of Peabody, Kansas; and S. Wheeler, of Hastings, Nebraska. The three who have passed away are A. Moseley, Mrs. Susan N. Price and Mrs. Mary A. Buell.

Captain John W. Niles was reared on his father's farm and acquired his education in the district schools and in Hamilton Academy. He taught a district school in Illinois and also in Iowa, being thus engaged up to the time of the Civil war. He was also serving as postmaster at Madison, Iowa, at the time of the outbreak of hostilities, having been a resident of that state from 1854. Interested in the progress of events in the south, his patriotic spirit was aroused by the attempt to overthrow the Union, and on the 12th of August, 1861, he offered his services to the government, enlisting in Company B, Ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Vandever, who, returning from congress, raised a regiment and went forth to battle for his country in the south. He was afterward a congressman from California. Captain Niles enlisted as a private, but when the company was organized was made orderly sergeant. At the battle of Vicksburg he was promoted to first lieutenant for gallantry in action, and when the captain of the company resigned he was made its commander. He served for four years, doing valiant service for the country, never faltering in the discharge of any duty and meeting all of the experiences of camp life. He participated in the battles of Pea Ridge, Arkansas Post, the assault and the siege of Vicksburg, and the battle of Jackson, Mississippi. He was also with Sherman's army at Lookout mountain and Missionary Ridge, all through the Atlantic campaign, and on the celebrated march to the sea. He served for four years, and after the grand review was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, in July, 1865, returning home with a most creditable military record.

Coming to Sterling in the fall of 1865, Captain Niles purchased some land south of the river and engaged in farming until 1875. He then took up his abode in the city and has since lived there. He belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M., and Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T. He was master of the blue lodge at one time and is now secretary of all the Masonic bodies. He is also the

valued and popular commander of Will Robinson Post, No. 274, which office he has filled for a number of years. He was one of the organizers and a charter member of the post. He is also a member of the Loyal Legion, and in community affairs he has taken an active and helpful part and was a member and secretary of the board of education of the Central school for twenty-three years. Upon his retirement W. W. Davis contributed the following complimentary notice concerning the Captain's service on the school board to one of the Sterling newspapers: "His office was mostly identified with what was known as the Second ward school, now, since consolidation with the Lincoln, as district three. The close of so long and honorable a career deserves more than passing notice. The office of director is peculiar. There is no profit, no thanks, plenty of criticism, and yet with the Captain it was a labor of love. Always ready, always on hand, never missing a meeting, regular in visitation, fertile in suggestion, unerring in judgment, genial in intercourse, popular with the children and with his fellow members, no commission too much trouble to execute, he has left a record that it will be pleasant to cherish. To no one man does the success of our leading school owe so much. In matters of citizenship Captain Niles is today as loyal as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields and his aid can always be counted upon to further any movements for the welfare and upbuilding of Sterling.

WILLIAM H. MIDDAGH.

William H. Middagh, a respected and representative farmer of Coloma township, living on section 32, was born on the 20th of January, 1825, in Ulster county, New York, his parents being Jacob H. and Catherine (Winchell) Middagh, who were natives of the Empire state. The father was a miller by trade and also followed the occupation of farming. He married Miss Catherine Winchell, who was likewise a native of Ulster county, New York, and was of German descent. They became the parents of five children, all of whom reached adult age, namely: Lemuel, Susan, William H., DeWitt and Mary. DeWitt was a soldier of the Union army and died of disease contracted in the service. The parents passed their entire lives in the Empire state.

William H. Middagh acquired a common-school education and in early life learned the miller's trade, which he followed for a number of years. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Susie E. Brooks, to whom he was married in October, 1846. She, too, was a native of New York, and they became the parents of five children: John, who died at an early age; Sylvester; Ella, the wife of William Stewart, of Binghamton, New York, and a prosperous merchant and commercial traveler; Ida, the wife of Warren Murray; and Horatio.

For several years after his marriage William H. Middagh continued to operate the mill and farm belonging to his father. On disposing of his interests there he removed to Broome county, New York, where he purchased a

tract of land which was mostly covered by timber. This he cleared and improved, building thereon a comfortable home, good barns and other outbuildings. In 1866 he sold that property and removed westward to Whiteside county, Illinois, purchasing the place upon which he now resides on section 32, Coloma township. He has lived a long and busy life. His record has been checkered by mishaps and disadvantages and yet by his persistency of purpose and unfaltering diligence he has achieved a goodly measure of success. At one time he suffered the loss of a great number of hogs valued at over two thousand dollars. He has also lost valuable horses and other stock, but notwithstanding these obstacles in his path to success he has persevered and has become one of the substantial farmers of the county. In all of his business dealings he has been thoroughly reliable and trustworthy. He has never sued a person in all his life, preferring to suffer injustice and loss rather than to force his rights through the processes of the law. No man has ever known him to take advantage of the necessities of another in a business transaction but, on the contrary, he is thoroughly reliable and trustworthy.

In 1907 Mr. Middagh was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 10th of May, of that year. Since then he has been living alone most of the time upon the old homestead. His daughter, Mrs. William Stewart, who lives in Binghamton, New York, takes a great interest in looking after her father's comfort and has tried to induce him to leave the responsibilities and care of the farm to others and go and live with her, but Mr. Middagh clings to the old homestead, where so many happy years of his life have been passed.

His friends and neighbors have nothing for him but the kindest words and the utmost respect. His political allegiance is given to the democracy and he has never sought nor desired office. He has ever displayed a kind, generous disposition, willing to extend a helping hand to those in need, and throughout his community is held in the highest esteem. He has now passed the eighty-third milestone on life's journey and has therefore witnessed many remarkable events in the history of his country as well as the progress and up-building of his adopted county.

NATHAN THOMPSON.

There are few men whose lives are crowned with the honor and respect which is uniformly accorded to Nathan Thompson, but through many years' connection with the history of Prophetstown and Whiteside county his has been an unblemished character. With him success in life has been reached by his sterling qualities of heart and mind, true to every manly principle. He has never deviated from what his judgment would indicate to be right and honorable between his fellowmen and himself and with this as a foundation he has builded thereon by reason of his energy, determination and utilization of opportunities and has won a success that is as gratifying and honorable as it is substantial. After a long and eventful career he can look



A. Thompson

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back over the past with pride and enjoy the declining years of his earthly pilgrimage with a consciousness of having gained for himself by his straightforward career the confidence and respect of the entire community in which he lives.

Mr. Thompson is a native of Galway, Saratoga county, New York, born March 9, 1822. In early colonial days the family, which is of Scotch-Irish origin, was founded in America, being established in Boston in 1718. Representatives of the name went to Saratoga county, New York, at the close of the French and Indian war in 1763. The family was represented in the Revolutionary war by John Thompson, who attained the rank of captain and when Stillwater township, Saratoga county, New York, was organized in 1788 he became one of its first justices, while in that year and in 1789 he was also a member of the state assembly. In 1791 when Saratoga was organized as a county, John Thompson was appointed the first judge and filled the office for eighteen years, or until 1809, when he reached the age of limit fixed by law and retired. He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1801 and was later a representative to the sixth, tenth and eleventh congresses. He thus left the impress of his individuality upon the judicial and legislative history of his county, state and nation and took a most active and helpful part in promoting its interests during its formative period. His son, James Thompson, also served as county judge, his judicial career closing in 1833, while his death occurred in 1845. His second son, John Whalen Thompson, born December 19, 1808, seemed to have inherited the mental powers of his father and grandfather and was graduated with honor at Union College in 1827. Studying law, he was admitted to the bar in 1831 and in 1834 was appointed by Governor Marcy surrogate of Saratoga county to fill the position until 1846, when the new constitution took effect. He assisted in organizing the Ballston Spa (N. Y.) bank in 1838 and was its president from 1856 until his death, June 28, 1892. His son, George Lee, succeeded him to the presidency and died December 29, 1895. The two younger sons of John Thompson, Samuel and Frank, both reside at the old homestead. Of the sons of Judge John Thompson, the grandfather of our subject, William became a prominent lawyer of Obed, New York, and Charles an active business man of Seneca Falls, New York.

The other son was Dr. Nathan Thompson, the father of our subject. He was born in Saratoga county, in March, 1778, and became a leading physician of his native county, where he married Miss Lucy Plumb, who was born in Connecticut and at an early day became a resident of Oneida county, New York. They had six children: Emma, Mary, Charles, Martha, Nathan and Ralph, but only Martha and Nathan are now living and for many years she has made her home with Mr. Thompson, of this review.

"Fortunate is the man who has back of him an ancestry honorable and distinguished," and in this respect Nathan Thompson is blessed. He was reared amid refining influences upon a farm in his native county, where good educational privileges were afforded him by the public schools. He lost his father when young, but continued to reside in Saratoga county until he attained his majority. After mastering the common branches of learning

he later spent the winter seasons as a student in an academy. The west attracted him and in 1843 he made his way to Illinois in company with his two cousins, Robert and Isaac Seers, traveling by way of the Great Lakes to Milwaukee and thence overland to Elgin, Kane county. When two years had passed Mr. Thompson took up his abode in Whiteside county, settling at Prophetstown, where he put in a crop for his cousins, who purchased a farm here. Sixty-three years have since come and gone and Nathan Thompson yet remains a valued resident of this county, where for many years he labored actively and untiringly, promoting public progress while advancing individual success. The only break in his residence here came in 1851, where he went to Peru and there engaged in working in a plow factory, but the following year he returned to this county. In the meantime, however, he had spent about a year as a clerk in a store and through one winter had operated a horse-power sawmill in Portland Grove. Going to Peru, he was employed in the plow works of Tuller, Dodge & Pitts, and upon his return to Prophetstown in 1852, embarked in business on his own account as proprietor of a general store under the firm style of Nathan Thompson & Company, his partner being N. Tuller. He erected an extensive store building and for fifteen years was actively associated with the business. He did not confine his attention entirely to this line, however, but as opportunity offered made judicious and extensive investments in property, controlled his farming interests and also did contract work on the county ditches. In this connection he constructed nine miles of county ditches and with another party graded the railroad from Rock river to Green river. His business interests have invariably been of a character that have contributed to the general improvement as well as to individual success. Later he gave most of his attention to overseeing his farms, having four or five hundred acres of valuable land, but in more recent years he has disposed of this property. He never resided upon a farm, but always made his home in Prophetstown and from that point gave his supervision to his agricultural interests. His name figures conspicuously in connection with financial circles, for from 1872 until 1878 he was identified with the banking interests of Prophetstown and in 1902 became one of the organizers of the Farmers' National Bank, of which he has since been president. This institution is capitalized for sixty thousand dollars and is recognized as one of the strong moneyed concerns of the county.

Mr. Thompson was married in December, 1867, to Mrs. Sarah J. Parrott, whose first husband was killed in the army. She was born and educated in Vermont, and for fifteen years Mr. and Mrs. Thompson traveled life's journey happily together, after which they were separated by the death of the wife, who in 1882, was laid to rest in Prophetstown cemetery. His sister Martha has since acted as his housekeeper. Mr. Thompson has never affiliated with fraternal organizations nor has he held membership in any church. His political support was given to James K. Polk in 1844, for, although he was not residing here at the time, he cast his vote in Prophetstown by reason of the fact that he was a resident of the congressional district. He has since been a stalwart democrat and has held some local offices, although his aspira-

tion and ambitions have not been in the line of office-holding. He has preferred to concentrate his time and energies upon his business interests and the story of his success is well known in this county. We read of the lives of the heroes of the past and they not only prove of historical interest but serve also to inspire and encourage; yet we need not go to former ages for examples that are worthy of emulation. The men of today who have won success and honor equal in exemplary traits of character those who have passed away, and the life of Nathan Thompson may well prove of great benefit if we will but heed the obvious lessons which it contains. He has now reached the eighty-sixth milestone on life's journey. He has ever been a man of strength of character, of strong will and of determined purpose, holding closely to the ideals that he has believed to be right and winning his success by judicious investments. His path has never been strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes, and on the contrary the public has been an indirect beneficiary in much that he has accomplished.

CLARENCE F. SENIOR.

Clarence F. Senior, successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising in Garden Plain township, is a native son of this township, his parents being H. R. and Emma (Stone) Senior. The father's birth also occurred in Garden Plain township, December 4, 1850, the grandfather, John Senior, having come to Whiteside county some years prior to his marriage. Harvey R. Senior was reared upon the home farm and educated in the country schools. He was left an orphan at an early age and his opportunities in youth were about like those of the average boy in a frontier community. When he had attained his majority he commenced farming on his own account on land purchased by the family and for a long period continued actively in general agricultural pursuits. By reason of his early training he was well qualified for the occupation which he made his life work, his untiring industry and capable business management winning for him a gratifying measure of prosperity. He is now, however, living retired, giving his attention merely to his invested interests. In 1902, in connection with Dr. S. B. Dimond and C. E. Peck, he organized the First National Bank of Albany, of which he is a director and the vice president. For a number of years he was also president of the Garden Plain Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Unto him and his wife were born four children: Clarence F., of this review; Newell K., a resident of Garden Plain township; and Olive L. and Emily B., at home. H. R. Senior was elected county supervisor in 1889 and was continued in the office by reelection to the year 1907, when he resigned. He is widely recognized as one of the county's representative and enterprising citizens, whose success has been gained through methods which neither seek nor require disguise.

Clarence F. Senior first attended school in his native township and subsequently continued his studies in the schools of Albany and Port Byron, while at Fulton, Illinois, he also took a commercial course. After leaving school he

engaged in farming on his father's land and when he had attained his majority began the operation of rented land, being successfully engaged in its cultivation for two years. On the expiration of that period he purchased ninety-one acres of slightly improved land at sixty dollars per acre, which he has highly developed and on which he has placed many modern improvements, including barns, a scale house and other accessories and conveniences which constitute a model farming property. In 1907 he erected a handsome frame residence, two stories in height, one of the finest farm homes in the county. In addition to the work of the fields Mr. Senior makes a specialty of raising and feeding cattle and hogs and in both branches of his business is meeting with a gratifying and well merited measure of success, being well known as one of the progressive and wide-awake agriculturists and stock-raisers of the community.

In 1901 Mr. Senior was united in marriage to Miss Sadie E. Stroud, of Garden Plain township, a daughter of John and Hattie (Emmons) Stroud, who, after residing in Kansas for some years, returned to Whiteside county. The Stroud family came from Pennsylvania, while members of the Emmons family were early settlers of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Stroud still survive, the former being engaged in farming in Garden Plain township, where he is well and favorably known. They have four children: Frank, who is a telegraph operator; Mrs. Senior; John, a telegraph operator of Leland, Illinois; and Leonard, at home. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Senior have been born two children: Evelyn, and Everett, deceased.

Mr. Senior is a stalwart champion of the republican party, and his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church. Their lives have ever been actuated by high principles and worthy motives and thus they have gained the respect and esteem of all with whom they have come in contact.

JAMES W. ENTWHISTLE.

James W. Entwhistle is the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 34, Ustick township, and the place returns to him a good annual income because of the care and labor he bestows upon it. He has made his home in Whiteside county since 1871 and his residence in Illinois dates from 1836. He was born in Philadelphia, August 30, 1831, and was therefore a little less than five years of age when with his parents he came to this state, the family home being established in Galena, Jo Daviess county. His father, James Entwhistle, a weaver and farmer, spent his early life in Philadelphia. In the year 1835 he made his way from Philadelphia to Illinois, and settling on the frontier, he aided in reclaiming it for the purposes of civilization. He belonged to the Protestant Episcopal church and was a man of high character. His political allegiance was given to the republican party. In Philadelphia he married Miss Margaret Wilson and their children were: Ellen, who died in Philadelphia in early childhood; John; Thomas; James W.; Mary Ann, who died in Whiteside county; and Robert, who is a retired farmer of Tamaroa, Illinois.

In Galena, Jo Daviess county, amid the wild scenes and environments of pioneer life, James W. Entwhistle was reared. There were still many evidences of Indian occupancy in the state. U. S. Grant, who was afterward to attain national prominence as a military hero and to be honored with the highest official position in the gift of the nation, was in those early times a worker in the lead mines at Galena and no one dreamed of the destiny that awaited him. The greater part of the land now embraced within the borders of the state was still owned by the government and the city of Chicago had not been incorporated at the time of Mr. Entwhistle's arrival in Illinois. He was identified with the early development of Jo Daviess county, where he continued to live for thirty-five years or until 1871, when he came to Whiteside county and bought a farm of Hiram Stratton, an early settler. He also bought from John Kent a tract of land, upon which his son, J. J. Entwhistle, now resides.

Mr. Entwhistle had been married in Elizabeth, Jo Daviess county, to Miss Ellen Lawton on the 4th of January, 1855. She was born June 13, 1835, near Hudson, New York. Her parents were natives of England and came to the United States in 1828. The father died in New York and the mother afterward became a resident of Jo Daviess county, Illinois. In the Lawton family were several children, namely: Joseph, a retired farmer now living in Hanover, Illinois; Mrs. Caroline Moser, a resident of Dubuque, Iowa; and Oliver C. Lawton, a farmer residing in Union Grove township, this county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Entwhistle have been born the following named: Mrs. Margaret Odlin, who resides in Union Grove township; John James, who operates a part of his father's farm in Ustick township and who for several years has been supervisor there; Caroline, the wife of W. L. Abbott, of Chicago, a brother of A. N. Abbott, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; Elmer Ellsworth, who died at the age of two years; Hannah, at home; George W., who is operating a farm of his own and also a part of his father's land in Ustick township; and Nellie, who died in infancy.

Mr. Entwhistle is today the owner of a valuable farm property of two hundred and forty acres situated on section 34, Ustick township. It is the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry, as his possessions have been acquired entirely through his own labor. He has lived to witness remarkable changes in the state and in the methods of farm life as well. His memory goes back to a day when the homes were largely log cabins or unpretentious frame dwellings. Today the great majority of farm houses are commodious and substantial residences built in modern and attractive style of architecture. The farm machinery, too, is totally unlike that in use many years ago and in his work Mr. Entwhistle has always kept in touch with modern, progressive ideas. He says he remembers one year in which there was no summer here, the season being so cold throughout the entire year that very poor crops were harvested. He can remember, too, when great stretches of the country were covered with the native prairie grasses, starred with a million flowers in June and in December covered with one unbroken sheet of snow. Deer and other wild game could be had and wolves and other wild animals were heard in the forests and on the prairies. He has not only lived to witness a remarkable

change but has borne his part in the work which has brought this about and is regarded as one of the valued and representative citizens of his community. The cause of education has always found in him a warm friend and he has served as school trustee, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Episcopal church.

JONAS H. BAER.

Like the other thriving towns and cities of the middle west, Sterling has its full quota of enterprising, energetic business men,—men who recognize and utilize opportunities and so place their investments and direct their energies as to win success. To this class belongs Jonas H. Baer, engaged in the real-estate, loan and insurance business. He is one of the large landowners, having excellent income property.

A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Baer was born in Lancaster county, in January, 1853. His parents were Martin and Mary (Herr) Baer, also natives of that county. The paternal grandfather likewise bore the name of Martin Baer and was born in the Keystone state. For many years he followed farming in Lancaster county and died there when well advanced in years, while his wife, Mrs. Martha Baer, was eighty-two years of age at the time of her demise. The founder of the family in America was the father of Martin Baer, Sr., who came from Germany to the new world and settled in Lancaster county.

Martin Baer, the father of Jonas H. Baer, devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits and in 1857 came to Whiteside county, Illinois, taking up his abode upon a farm in Jordan township, where he continued to engage in the tilling of the soil until his death, which occurred May 3, 1887, when he was sixty-two years of age. His wife still survives him and in religious faith is a Mennonite, of which sect Mr. Baer was likewise a representative. He held various township offices and in community affairs took a deep and helpful interest. He was a very frugal and industrious man, was well read and, by reason of his many excellent traits of character, commanded the confidence and respect of his neighbors and friends and became one of the influential farmers of Jordan township. Prospering in his business undertakings he added to his possessions from time to time until he became the owner of five farms embracing eight hundred acres. In early manhood he wedded Mary Herr, a daughter of Henry and Catharine Herr, who were natives of Pennsylvania and lived in Lancaster county. Her father was a farmer and always made his home in the east but paid a number of visits to Whiteside county, Illinois. He died at an advanced age and his wife when about sixty, her death resulting from an accident. They were the parents of ten children, including Mrs. Martin Baer, who by her marriage became the mother of five sons and two daughters, four of whom are now living, namely: Henry, of Jordan township; Jonas H., of Sterling; Elizabeth, the wife of John Hey, of Sterling; and Catharine, the wife of Samuel Myers, who resides a mile north of the city. Those deceased are Ezra, Abraham and Frank.

J. H. Baer of this review was but four years of age when he came with his parents to Whiteside county and was here reared to manhood upon his father's farm in Jordan township. In his youth his time was alternated between the acquirement of a district-school education and the work of the home farm. He continued to live upon the old homestead until 1874, when he removed to a farm which he purchased in 1886, living there until his removal to Sterling in 1903. Here he is engaged in the real-estate business. He now buys and sells farms and farming land on his own account as well as on commission. He owns several farms in South Dakota, near Plankington, and the remainder in Nebraska. His residence is at No. 504 Seventh avenue and he is likewise the owner of this property.

On the 12th of September, 1876, Mr. Baer was married to Miss Annie H. Rutt, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rutt, who came from Franklin county, Pennsylvania, to Illinois in 1864 and settled near Prairieville, Lee county. Mr. Rutt followed farming there for many years and his wife passed away there. He afterwards removed to Adams county, Nebraska, locating near the town of Ayr. By his first marriage he had the following children: Jacob; Henry; Susan, the wife of Christian Ebersole; Hetty, the wife of Joseph B. Detweiler; Mary, the deceased wife of Martin Andreas; Fannie, the wife of J. S. Detweiler; and Annie, now Mrs. Baer. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Baer have been born two sons—Roy R. and Bert, and they have also an adopted daughter, Hazel May.

The parents are members of the English Lutheran church, in the work of which they are much interested. Mr. Baer has been supervisor of Jordan township seven terms and school treasurer for about five years, and his fidelity in office is indicated by the length of his service. Politically he is a prohibitionist and his influence is ever found on the side of those agencies which work for the moral betterment of the race. He stands for justice, truth and right, and as an influential factor in public life in his community he is well known.

WINGFIELD J. HARDY.

Wingfield J. Hardy owns and cultivates an excellent farm of one hundred and ten acres in Mount Pleasant township and is numbered among the leading representative agriculturists of his community. He was born upon this farm on section 34, February 12, 1858, and is a son of William and Keziah (Richardson) Hardy, of whom extended mention is made in connection with the sketch of A. W. Hardy on another page of this work. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Wingfield J. Hardy in his boyhood and youth. His time was divided between the work of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the tasks connected with the improvement of the fields. His early experience as a farmer well qualified him to carry on the work which now claims his time and energies. He has always followed general farming and is today the owner of one hun-

dred and ten acres of rich and productive land on sections 27 and 34, Mount Pleasant township. He has brought the fields into a state of rich fertility and annually harvests good crops as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon the land.

Mr. Hardy was married in 1882 to Miss Elva E. Seaman, who was born in Lyndon township and is a daughter of David and Amy (Sweet) Seaman. One son of that family died in infancy. The father, who was born June 13, 1825, departed this life in the year of 1859, while the mother, who was born February 11, 1834, is now living in Morrison. Since the death of her first husband she has become the wife of William Hicks.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hardy have been born two sons—Raymond and Carl A. The elder, born December 29, 1883, married Lillian E. Allen, of Lyndon, where he now resides. Carl A., born October 9, 1888, is at home with his parents. The family are widely and favorably known in this community, their many good traits of character winning them the kindly regard and good will of those with whom they have been brought in contact. Mr. Hardy is a stalwart advocate of the republican party, believing thoroughly in its principles, and giving to it earnest support. He and his wife are members of the Mystic Workers and of the Fraternal Tribune.

WILLIAM WHITE DAVIS.

William White Davis was born in New Holland, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, October 25, 1836. His father, Gabriel Davis, had Scotch, Irish and Welsh blood in his veins. John Anderson, one of his ancestors, was born in County Antrim, Ireland, in 1728. Jenkins Davis emigrated from County Cardigan, Wales, early in 1700. They settled in eastern Pennsylvania. The great-grandfather of William W. was an active patriot in the Revolutionary war, being member of the committee of safety, and captain of a military company. The mother of William W. was Susanna Roland Diller, daughter of Jonathan Diller and Ann Weaver. German on both sides. Gabriel Davis and Susanna Diller were married in Philadelphia, 1835, at the Episcopal residence by William White, first bishop of Pennsylvania. From this venerable and saintly prelate, the first son of this marriage, William White received his name.

William grew up in New Holland and received his early education in the village school. Two pleasing and profitable episodes in his youthful years. In 1849 he accompanied his father to Washington and saw President Taylor, Henry Clay, Thomas H. Benton, and the giants of that time. In 1851 he and his father made a delightful tour of two months in the west, going to Pittsburg by rail and canal, by boat on Ohio and Mississippi, traveled by stage over Illinois, had an interview with Lincoln at Springfield, returning by Chicago, Niagara Falls, Hudson and New York. From 1852 to 1853 he was at the Lancaster high school, from 1853 to 1856 at Franklin and Marshall College. He took the honors of his class at commencement



MRS. W. W. DAVIS

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and had the distinction of delivering his address, "Decline of Political Integrity," before the coming president, James Buchanan.

Removing to Sterling, Illinois, with his father's family, Mr. Davis entered upon the profession of teaching, which he continued for twenty years. During his stay at Dixon, he prepared a small manual on Composition Writing, which was published by George Sherwood, Chicago, and received the commendation of Newton Bateman, Richard Edwards and John S. Hart, educators all now gone to their reward.

In 1875 Mr. Davis was offered the position of associate editor on The Express, a daily of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, which he held until he accepted a similar position on The Press, Philadelphia, then conducted by John W. Farney. Here he remained during the winter of 1876-1877, and in the spring returned to Illinois. In August, 1879, he was married to Miss Maggie A. Wolfersperger, daughter of John and Lydia Wolfersperger, prosperous farmers of Jordan township, north of Sterling. After two years of domestic happiness at Birdwood, west of Emerson, a pleasant rural retreat, Mr. and Mrs. Davis removed to Sterling in 1881, where they have since resided in a charming cottage on the banks of Rock river.

During his college course Mr. Davis was a regular attendant at St. James' church, and enjoyed the earnest discourses of Samuel Bowman, afterward bishop of Pennsylvania. On his removal to Sterling, the family found the Presbyterian church most convenient, the pastor, Rev. E. Erskine, graduate of Princeton, attracting all classes by his earnest manner and kindly sympathy. Since his marriage, he has accompanied his wife to the Lutheran church, was fourteen years superintendent of the Sunday school, and is now teaching a Bible class of fifty men and women.

In the spring of 1890 Mr. Davis gratified a long cherished desire of his life by joining an excursion to Europe and the Holy Land, visiting Antwerp, Switzerland, Italy, Egypt, Jerusalem, Paris, London, and Edinburgh. On his return he delivered some lectures on his trip, "Jerusalem and the Pyramids," "A Sunday Morning With Spurgeon," "A Week in London."

His tales are literary. Autographs are a hobby, and his collection of poets, statesmen, heroes, divines, begun in 1865, richly illustrated, has few equals in the country. He is a constant contributor to the press. The Gazette of Sterling is printing a series of sketches on "Men and Women I've Met," notable people of a life-time, that has reached the sixtieth number of the series. He is a favorite writer for the Lutheran Observer, Philadelphia.

The Whiteside County Historical Society was brought into being by his efforts in 1903, and now has a large and valuable collection of books, papers and curios of every name.

His letter writing has given Mr. Davis a peculiar local distinction. He has made numerous trips, short and extended, and never fails to despatch a daily bulletin of things as he sees them to his home papers. In this way, people have traveled with him. His letters from Europe and Egypt, Colorado, Washington and New York, Quebec, Mexico, Dakota, Havana, Florida, New Orleans, Chattanooga, would fill several volumes. Scarcely a day when

at home that he has not a paragraph for the journals about some current topic.

Two children have blessed the union. John, after enjoying four years at the high school in Sterling, took four years in civil engineering at Illinois University, Champaign, and is now married and engaged in his profession in Chicago. The younger child, Susanna Roland, also passed through the high school and is now in her second year of a general classical course at Oberlin College, Ohio.

JOSEPH L. PFUNDSTEIN.

Joseph L. Pfundstein, who is successfully carrying on agricultural pursuits on section 16, Jordan township, was born in this township on the 18th of April, 1866, his parents being Joseph and Caroline (Winkle) Pfundstein, natives of Wittenberg, Germany, who emigrated to America in 1854. The father, whose birth occurred March 4, 1828, passed away March 11, 1901. On his arrival in the new world he located in Harrisville, Pennsylvania, where he remained for ten years, on the expiration of which period he came to Jordan township, Whiteside county, Illinois. This remained his place of residence until 1898, when he removed to Sterling.

On the 10th of October, 1864, at Dixon, he enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company A, Thirty-fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, under Captain W. C. Robinson. He was with the army during the last nine months of the war and took part in a number of spirited engagements, including the battle of Nashville, Tennessee, on the 16th of December, 1864. In this encounter the fore finger of his right hand was shot off and he was taken to a hospital at Jefferson, Indiana, where he remained for ninety days, being subsequently engaged as steward in this hospital and serving in that capacity until his honorable discharge on July 18, 1865. He was a member of Will Robinson Post and for many years was actively identified with the West Jordan Lutheran church, which he also assisted in building, and of which he served as a trustee for twelve years. Moreover, he was prominent in local political circles, serving as tax collector and road commissioner of the town of Jordan for many years, while for nineteen years he was school director of the Jordan Center school. He was widely recognized as one of the prominent and prosperous agriculturists of the community and at his death left several valuable farms in Jordan. Jovial in disposition, kindly in action and straightforward and honorable in all the relations of life, he won the respect and admiration of his fellowmen, and when he was called to his final rest the county mourned the loss of one of its honored pioneers and public spirited citizens.

On the 24th of September, 1859, at Culpville, Pennsylvania, Joseph Pfundstein was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Winkle, by whom he had eleven children, two of whom died in infancy. Seven sons and two daughters still survive, namely: Thomas, Joseph L., Frank and John, all of whom are

successfully carrying on farming in Jordan township; Jacob, a prominent agriculturist of Rock Island Junction; Andrew, now groceryman of Sterling; Richard, residing in Sterling; Mrs. Jabez Gilbert, of Jordan; and Amanda, wife of William Zigler, of Emerson. The father of this family is survived by two brothers and two sisters: Thomas, of Sterling; George, who resides in Erie; Mrs. J. G. Frank, living in Jordan; and Miss Anna Pfundstein, who makes her home in Germany.

Joseph L. Pfundstein of this review pursued his education in the common schools and when he had attained the age of nineteen years began working in a creamery, being thus employed for thirteen years. On the expiration of that period he took up farming and has since been successfully engaged in this line of activity, being now the owner of one hundred and eighty-two acres of land on section 16, Jordan township, which he has cultivated and improved until it is now one of the model farms of the locality.

On the 9th of February, 1897, Joseph L. Pfundstein was joined in wedlock to Miss Barbara Woessner, a daughter of Mathias and Christina (Haubreaur) Woessner, both natives of Germany, where they still reside, the father being a shoemaker. Their daughter, Mrs. Pfundstein, came to the United States in 1892, and her brothers and sisters are as follows: Mathias, living on a farm in Whiteside county; John, also an agriculturist of this county; Christina, who resides in Germany; Will, likewise a farmer of Whiteside county; and Dora Schick.

In the county where his entire life has been passed Joseph L. Pfundstein is well and favorably known, having the warm esteem and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact by reason of his genuine personal worth and unfaltering integrity. He is a member of the West Jordan Lutheran church and by his ballot supports the republican party. He has served as assessor of Jordan township for two years and school director for six years, holding the latter office at the present time.

FRANK DETWEILER.

Frank Detweiler, who carries on general farming on section 15, Jordan township, was born on the old family homestead in that township, May 5, 1870, his parents being Henry M. and Magdalena (Detweiler) Detweiler, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania.

Frank Detweiler attended the common schools, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, and when not busy with his text-books worked in the fields, assisting his father in the care and improvement of the property. He remained at home until twenty-four years of age and then started out in life on his own account, beginning the operation of the farm upon which he now resides.

He was married on the 6th of June, 1900, to Miss Edith Elizabeth Eshleman, a daughter of Albert and Mary (Rhoades) Eshleman, who were natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. They came to Whiteside county in 1879

and have resided here continuously since, with the exception of a few years passed in the east. They are now residents of Sterling township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Detweiler have been born three children—Fay Everett, Ethel Marie and Harold Albert.

The parents are well known in the community, where they have a circle of warm and loyal friends. Mr. Detweiler gives his political allegiance to the republican party, but is not an official aspirant, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs rather than seek office. He now has the management of the old homestead farm of two hundred and fifteen acres of rich and productive land and in addition to the cultivation of the fields and the production of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he likewise raises stock and also engages in dairying, and in his business is meeting with success.

DANIEL B. HENWOOD.

Daniel B. Henwood, one of the venerable citizens of Erie, was born July 22, 1824, probably in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He has resided in Whiteside county from the pioneer epoch in its history, and has been closely associated with its business development and substantial progress. He was only a year old when his parents removed to Bucyrus, Ohio, and soon afterward the family home was established in Huron county, Ohio, where they lived for seven years. The parents were Peter and Sarah (Shapley) Henwood. The father, a native of Germany, died in Bucyrus, Ohio, when his son Daniel was but four years of age, while the mother spent her last days in Angola, Indiana. He was a blacksmith by trade, and there seemed nothing that he could not make out of steel, even to a gun. He learned the trade in Philadelphia, serving a seven years' apprenticeship, and became an expert in his line. He was twice married, and by his first marriage had one son, William Henwood. After losing his first wife he was married again in Pennsylvania, and by that union there were five sons and three daughters. All of the sons of William Henwood served under General Sherman in the Civil war, and the daughters carried on the home farm while their brothers were at the front. They lost several horses when General Lee made his raid into Pennsylvania. The mother was also married twice, her first husband being William Jackson, and their children were David, Jerusha, Rufus and James. By the second marriage of Peter Henwood and Sarah Shapley there were three children, Daniel, Peter and Thomas, but the subject of this review is the only one now living. As stated, the family lived in Huron county for seven years. The next removal took them to Steuben county, Indiana, in 1837, driving through the black swamp. The roads much of the way were very bad and they could cover but a mile or two in a day. They continued to reside in Steuben county, Indiana, until 1847, when they started across the country with team and wagon to Chicago, and thence proceeded westward, locating at Cascade, about twenty-six miles from Dubuque, Iowa, where Daniel B. Henwood re-

mained for a short time. For three years he traveled through Illinois as a peddler and never crossed a railroad track during that time. He next turned his attention to the practice of medicine as a nurse, in connection with Dr. Dungan, of Galena. While thus engaged for three years he spent part of the time in Springfield, Illinois, and part in Peoria county, and in 1851 he arrived in Erie, where he purchased the old car ferry, which operated where the bridge now stands, continuing to conduct the ferry until the bridge was built. He also established a hardware and drug store and carried on farming interests in connection with the operation of the ferry and the conduct of his store, devoting his attention to all three lines of activity during the period of the Civil war. Recently he sold his farm to his son. He platted several lots, known as the Henwood addition, comprising twenty-two acres of land in the eastern part of the town, and is thus contributing to the substantial development and upbuilding of Erie.

In June, 1852, Mr. Henwood was married to Miss Lydia Coburn, a native of New York, born January 4, 1828. She came to Illinois with her parents, Charles and Hannah (Maxwell) Coburn, and for forty-seven years traveled life's journey with Mr. Henwood as his faithful companion and helpmate. They were separated in death in 1899, Mrs. Henwood being called from this life on the 26th of January of that year. Their children were seven in number: Burton, who died in childhood; Butler, who conducts a dray line in Erie; Charles, who died in infancy; Ida, the wife of George Baker, of Marion, North Dakota; Mary, who died at the age of three years; Carrie, the wife of F. E. Burrige, a druggist of Erie; and Frank, of Texas. Since the death of his wife, Mr. Henwood has made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Burrige. He is one of the prominent and honored old pioneer settlers of this county and has attained the age of eighty-four years. He figures as one of the characters in M. M. Kirkman's story of "The Romans of Gilbert Holmes." Mr. Kirkman, who is the second vice-president of the Northwestern Railroad, was reared by Mr. Henwood, becoming a member of his household at the age of five years and remaining with him until he started out in life on his own account. With the early development and progress of the county Mr. Henwood was closely associated and for many years figured in its business life, and is still supervising his invested interests. He has an extensive acquaintance in Whiteside county, and wherever known is respected and honored; receiving the esteem and veneration which should ever be accorded one who has advanced thus far on the journey of life.

WILLIAM T. GALT.

William T. Galt is numbered among the native sons of Sterling who have found the city as a place of residence so attractive and its business opportunities so favorable that they have had no desire to seek homes elsewhere. Mr. Galt was born October 26, 1873, and has spent his entire life in Sterling. He attended the public schools, passing through consecutive grades and later con-

tinued his education in Williston Seminary at East Hampton, Massachusetts. He then began writing life, fire and accident insurance and still continues in that line, also conducting a real-estate and loan business as senior partner of the firm of William T. Galt & Company, with offices in the Galt House block. He is thoroughly conversant with the opportunities offered by insurance protection, and as representative of a number of the old standard companies he has secured a large clientage in this direction. He is, moreover, well known through his operations in real estate and in placing loans and in all departments of his business has gained a gratifying patronage.

On the 27th of January, 1905, William T. Galt was married to Miss Rebecca S. Weeks, a daughter of George D. and Jane Weeks. They have one child, Elizabeth Jane Galt. The mother is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is prominent socially in Sterling. Mr. Galt belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T.; and Tabula Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He resides at No. 912 West Fourth street, and in the city where his entire life has been passed has a wide and favorable acquaintance that is indicative of his many commendable traits of character.

RUSSELL, BURDSALL & WARD BOLT & NUT COMPANY.

The record of Rock Falls' industrial development would be incomplete without some mention of the Russell, Burdsall & Ward Bolt & Nut Company, which is conducting an important enterprise in this city, with Allen N. Bradford as manager. The original partners, Ellwood Burdsall and William E. Ward, became acquainted in New York City in the winter of 1844, and on the 1st of October, 1845, formed a partnership for the manufacture of screws, Mr. Ward becoming impressed with the idea that he could devise machines for screw manufacture more economically than had previously been done. They rented a room with power at Pemberwick, Connecticut, put in a lathe, and Mr. Ward started upon the work, but the machine which he brought forth was not entirely successful, and when the New England Screw Company obtained a patent on the gimlet-pointed wood screw, which was so superior to the unpointed screws manufactured by Russell & Ward, the latter firm abandoned work of that character; but from Thomas Southard, a stove manufacturer of New York City, Mr. Burdsall received the suggestion that if the screws they manufactured were fitted with nuts they would answer for putting stoves together. In 1847 a third interest in the business was sold to Russell, Mackay & Beach, and the name changed to Russell, Burdsall & Company. Mr. Burdsall took some samples of stove bolts to Albany and obtained some good orders. In July, 1850, Mr. Ward obtained a patent on an open die header, used for making carriage and plow bolts. Some of these were made of square iron, while carriage bolts were made out of round iron and the square under the head upset into the dies. In 1851 Mr. Russell purchased the interest of both Mackay and Beach, and the name was changed

to Russell, Burdsall & Ward. The work of invention and manufacture were carried steadily forward, and in 1852 Mr. Ward obtained a patent on a solid die heading machine, which overcame the difficulties met with in his old roulette machine. In 1856 Mr. Ward obtained a patent on a machine for forging nuts, which was operated successfully till about 1880. Throughout the years changes were made which introduced improvements of value in the manufacture of screws and bolts and in the nature of the iron utilized.

In 1866 the business was re-organized as a joint stock corporation, with Mr. Russell as president; Mr. Burdsall, attorney and general agent; Samuel Comly, secretary and treasurer; and Mr. Ward, manager. During the subsequent prosecution of the business, various changes and modifications were made in the machines used. A great many machines were devised for automatically finishing the bolts, some of which were eminently successful, such as automatically pointing and threading bolts, and shavers for shaving the heads of carriage bolts, and machinery for automatically tapping nuts.

In 1871 William E. Ward became president of the company, and from 1880 until 1882 was busy devising machinery for the manufacture of cold cut nuts and finishing machines for tire bolts, and in the latter year organized the Portchester Bolt & Nut Company for the manufacture of these goods. This company was very successful and its business grew rapidly. In 1889 Richard H. Burdsall became treasurer of the company, while Ellwood Burdsall, Jr., owing to the enfeebled health of Mr. Ward, assumed the direction of the mechanical department. He has also designed many machines that are in successful operation. In 1900 Mr. Ward, the president, died, and his son, William L. Ward, succeeded as president of both companies, which were consolidated April 15, 1901, under the name of the Russell, Burdsall & Ward Bolt & Nut Company.

The company's mode of manufacture in the beginning differed very little from all other carriage bolt and nut makers at that time. The bolts were forged from heated square bars of iron, mostly by hand. William E. Ward concluded that a large saving in iron could be made by making a short, stove-in square by heading bolts off the rod from round iron. This idea was put into effect, but it was some time before the public adopted it. The company was the first to construct the bolt heading machine, on which stove and tire bolts were forged cold, automatically, and with this machine the first stove bolts placed on the American market were manufactured. Shaved and slotted stove bolts and turned head tire bolts were first offered to the trade in 1855. In 1856 Mr. Ward completed the first forged or hammer nut machine ever invented, and although it was not successful, he continued his work until he succeeded in perfecting machines that produced more than thirty thousand forged nuts daily. In 1857 the company matured a new and distinct process of bolt manufacture, working the iron cold and making the bolts complete without heating except for annealing before turning the heads. The work of perfecting machines and the output was carried steadily forward, and as time passed new additional machines were invented and new buildings erected, with proportional facilities as business required, until Russell, Burdsall & Ward became the largest full square carriage bolt manu-

facturers in America. The company owns its own peculiar class of machinery and has introduced various improvements, some patented and others not, which have been especially useful in making goods of which they were for years the almost exclusive producers. Among these was an ingeniously contrived machine for forming the point and cutting the thread with a chasing tool, automatically feeding the blanks into jaws, which seized the end bearing the head, advancing it against a tool which formed the point, the blank then passing to a chasing tool which cut the thread as by an engine lathe. No doubt Mr. Ward's greatest achievement was the invention of his cold nut machine in 1880, on which he further improved and secured a patent December 7, 1886. So successful was the invention that the company established one of the largest tire bolt trades in the country. Another remarkable feature of the Russell, Burdsall & Ward establishment is the performance of nearly all branches of labor by machinery. Time has tested the methods of their inventions and their products and placed the stamp of approval upon all.

WILLIAM M. KILGOUR.

William M. Kilgour, for many years a prominent citizen of Whiteside county, was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and was a son of Ezekiel J. Kilgour, who was also born in the Keystone state and engaged in farming in Sterling township, this county, following his removal to the middle west. He was one of the pioneer settlers of Whiteside county, aiding in the reclamation of wild land for the uses of civilization and thus extending the frontier. He wedded Eliza Graham, who died at the age of eighty-nine years, while he, too, passed away when well advanced in age. They were the parents of four children: Nancy Jane, who became the wife of John B. Crawford and died at Lohrville, Iowa; William M., of this review; Ezekial J., who was a soldier of the Civil war and died in Nashville, Tennessee; and Mary Belle, who died in Fairbury, Illinois.

William M. Kilgour came with his father's family to Sterling in 1827. He was then but a boy and the journey over the mountains in a wagon and across the prairies of Indiana and Illinois made a deep impression upon his memory. The family spent the first winter in a little cabin on Elkhorn creek, near what is now called Emerson. They then removed to the present site of Sterling and settled on the banks of the Rock river, only a few yards from the present residence of W. W. Davis. Ezekiel Kilgour there purchased a quarter section of land and upon the new farm William M. Kilgour was reared. Because of the remoteness from the older centers of civilization the family were forced to endure many hardships and privations, but it is a well-known fact that for thousands of stalwart Americans the west has been the field of opportunity, not only for business successes, but for character development. Upon the frontier a man is not judged by his ancestry or his possessions but by his character and worth, and the Kilgour family had no difficulty in establishing their right to rank with the foremost.



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William M. Kilgour aided in the development of the home farm, and having arrived at mature years devoted the summer months to general agricultural pursuits, while in the winter seasons he taught school at Linden, driving to and from his home. He regarded this, however, as an initial step to other professional labor, and becoming imbued with the desire to engage in the practice of law he utilized every moment for the mastery of the principles of jurisprudence and in due course of time was admitted to practice in all the courts of the state at the term of the supreme court held in Ottawa in 1856. Later he was admitted to practice in the United States district and circuit courts and in the supreme court of the United States at Washington. He first opened a law office in Sterling, where he remained continuously as an active member of the profession up to the time of his death, save for the period of his service in the Civil war. He became recognized as one of the ablest members of the Whiteside county bar. His devotion to his clients' interests was proverbial, but he never forgot that he owed a still higher allegiance to the majesty of the law. In the preparation of his cases he was thorough and in their presentation clear and forceful, his deductions following in logical sequence, while his citations of law and precedent were almost uniformly correct. Soon after his admission to the bar he was elected justice of the peace in Sterling township and filled that office for four years, also serving for several terms as supervisor.

As stated, the only interruption to his practice came when at the front he defended the Union cause as a member of the Thirteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He joined Company B and was elected second lieutenant. He remained at the front with his regiment for a year, participating in the battles of Wet Glaze, Lion Creek and Springfield, Missouri, and was then compelled to resign on account of illness. As soon as he had recovered his health, however, he re-enlisted at the call of the president in 1862 for six hundred thousand more troops and was instrumental in raising the Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Regiment. On the organization of Company I he was elected its captain and on the organization of the regiment was chosen major, with which rank he went to the front. In the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862, he sustained a gunshot wound which was so serious that he was carried from the battlefield to a farmhouse near by, where he remained under the care of the army surgeon until January, 1863. He was then taken to Louisville, Kentucky, and eventually returned home on sick leave. But patriotism was dominant to all else in his life at that time and as soon as his health permitted he rejoined his regiment at Stephenson, Alabama, and participated in the battle of Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, 1863. There he was taken prisoner, but with Company D, commanded by Captain Moore, he cut his way through the enemy's lines and joined his regiment. He also participated in the defense of Chattanooga and at one time was completely surrounded by the enemy, all communication being cut off. Later he participated in the battle of Lookout Mountain, November 24, 1863, being in the advance under General Hooker. He was in the thickest of the fight at Missionary Ridge, and also met the enemy at Ringgold Gap and Taylor's Ridge, subsequent to which time he was sent with the detail

to recover the Chickamauga battleground and bury the dead, arriving there December 5, 1863. In February, 1864, he was under fire at Buzzard's Roost, near Dalton, Georgia, commanding the Eightieth Illinois Infantry by order of General William Gross, who was in command of the brigade. In May, 1864, he led his troops in the battles of Tunnel Hill, Rocky Face Ridge and Dalton, followed by the two days' battle of Resaca and the engagements in June, 1864, at Kensington, Cassville, Cartersville, Pumpkin Vine Creek, Pine Mountain and Kenesaw Mountain. On the 1st of July, 1864, he commanded the skirmish line at Atlanta, and again on the 24th of August, when General Sherman was marching to the right and rear of that place. At Jonesboro, on the 30th of the same month, he was again under Confederate fire and at Lovejoy Station, September 2, 1864. After participating in the battle of Lost Mountain, Georgia, he pursued the rebel general Hood to Gaylesville, Alabama, and from that point was sent in command of a detail of the Seventy-fifth Illinois through the enemy's country. He next participated in the battles of Athens and Dalton, Georgia; Pulaski and Spring Hill, Tennessee, and was in the sanguinary conflict at Franklin, Tennessee, November 30, 1864, when seven hundred killed and wounded lay on the Confederate battleground. Later he had charge of a skirmish line at the battle of Nashville on the first day and on the second day charged the first and second lines of the enemy's works with the Seventy-fifth Illinois and captured them. He was brevetted colonel for gallant and meritorious service at Missionary Ridge and brigadier general for similar service at Atlanta. On the 28th of July, 1866, he was appointed captain in the regular army and was brevetted major, lieutenant colonel and colonel in recognition of the splendid aid he rendered his country while with the volunteer army. His loyalty was ever above question and his own bravery inspired the men under him to deeds of valor and heroism. He was at all times a soldierly man in his presence and bearing and while at the head of his troops, although he maintained rigid discipline, he also had the full love and confidence of those who served under him.

When the war was over Colonel Kilgour returned to Sterling and resumed the practice of law, being accorded a large and distinctively representative clientage. He also invested quite extensively in realty in the city and in Sterling township and was otherwise identified with the business interests of the city. In matters of citizenship he ever stood for progress, reform and improvement and was the stalwart champion of many measures for the general good. Honorable and upright in every relation of life, he was respected by all who knew him and in his home community his fellow townsmen had for him the most sincere friendship. He died at San Jose, California, May 29, 1885, at the age of fifty-seven years, and was survived for only a year by his wife, who was then laid to rest by his side in a cemetery at San Jose. His death resulted from a gunshot wound which he received at the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862.

Colonel Kilgour married Miss Mary Isabelle Junkin, a native of Iowa and a daughter of Judge Benjamin Junkin, who for many years served on the bench in that state and was succeeded by his son Benjamin. The father

lived in Muscatine and was a very prominent and influential resident of Iowa, leaving the impress of his individuality indelibly upon the judicial and political history of the state and upon the substantial development of the community. His wife, Mrs. Susan Junkin, lived to an advanced age. They reared a large family, of whom one daughter, Miss Alice Junkin, is still living in Muscatine. In the family of Colonel and Mrs. Kilgour were five children, but only three are now living: Eliza G., the wife of E. C. Tracy, of Chicago; James Albee, of Sterling; and William S., who is living in Roswell, New Mexico.

GEORGE D. GREENOUGH.

George D. Greenough, junior partner of the firm of Greenough & Galt, conducting real estate and insurance offices in the Galt House block, at Sterling, is a native son of the county, his birth having occurred at Rock Island Junction, just west of Sterling, on the 21st of April, 1880. The Greenough family is of English lineage, and at an early period in the colonization of New England was established in Boston. At one time a member of the family owned Staten Island. James Greenough, the grandfather of George D. Greenough, lived for many years retired in Boston as a well-to-do man, and passed away there when about sixty years of age.

His son, James S. Greenough, father of our subject, was born in Boston and became a railroad man and telegraph operator. He arrived in Sterling when about nineteen or twenty years of age and continued a resident of the city throughout the remainder of his life. He was engaged in the retail and wholesale oil business here before the Standard Oil Company took the field, and during the last ten or twelve years of his life he lived retired, enjoying in well earned rest the competence which he had acquired in his active business career. Always fond of travel, he had visited South America and Nova Scotia before he was fourteen years of age. When twenty years of age he lost a limb in a railroad accident, but this disaster seemed to prove no bar to his success, and for a long period he was accounted one of the enterprising and energetic business men of Sterling. He died in 1901, at the age of fifty-two years, and is still survived by his wife, who resides at No. 411 Avenue B. Mr. Greenough was an Odd Fellow in his fraternal relations, and in religious faith his wife was an Episcopalian. She bore the maiden name of Nellie E. Kitel, and was a daughter of George B. Kitel, a native of Vermont. He became connected with railroad interests and, following his removal to Illinois, aided in the construction of the Northwestern Railroad. He rode on the first engine, called the Old Pioneer, that made the first trip out of Sterling. For some years he served as postmaster of this city, and was a prominent Mason here, becoming a charter member of Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M. His daughter, Mrs. Greenough, was born in this county. By her marriage she became the mother of two daughters: Fannie M., the wife of W. F. Lipp; and Helen M., the wife of J. F. Wahl.

George D. Greenough, the only son and the youngest member of the family, has been a resident of Sterling throughout his entire life, and is indebted to the public schools and the old Wallace school for his education. He entered business circles in his father's office, and afterward embarked in the real-estate and insurance business, admitting Frank Galt to a partnership in 1905, under the firm style of Greenough & Galt. They now have many clients and are conducting a business which in volume and importance makes them leading representatives of their line in Whiteside county.

On the 15th of August, 1902, George D. Greenough was married to Miss Evelyn B. Coe, a daughter of Mark L. and Julia A. (Galt) Coe. Mrs. Greenough is a member of the Presbyterian church, while Mr. Greenough is a communicant of the Episcopal church. He also affiliates with Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M., and in politics is a republican, who, though never seeking office for himself, gives his influence on the side of progress and reform, as so many business men of today are doing—this constituting the most hopeful political sign of the period. He resides at No. 409 Avenue B, where, in 1906, he erected a beautiful home, which architecturally is an adornment to the city, while its gracious hospitality makes it the center of a cultured society circle.

BARTHOLOMEW KNISKERN.

Bartholomew Kniskern, one of the early settlers of Whiteside county, who has now passed away, was born in Fultonham, Schoharie county, New York, May 22, 1823. His parents, Peter and Nancy (Vrooman) Kniskern, were likewise natives of Fultonham, where they spent their entire lives, the father dying at the age of sixty years, while the mother passed away at the age of seventy-nine. As the name indicates, the family is of German lineage. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kniskern were born five daughters and two sons. Of this family Bartholomew, reared under the parental roof, remained a resident of his native village until 1865, when the opportunities of the west drew him to Illinois, and with his family he came to Lyndon.

Mr. Kniskern had been married in the east to Miss Caroline Haynes, who was born in Fultonham, June 16, 1820. On the journey westward they proceeded by rail to Morrison over the Northwestern Railroad, which was then the only line in Whiteside county, and from that town they continued on their way by wagon to Lyndon. The father purchased a farm of eighty acres on the open prairie on section 17, Lyndon township, and at once began to cultivate and improve the place. As the years passed he transformed it into a valuable property, erecting thereon the present buildings, setting out fine fruit trees, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation, and otherwise carrying on the work of agricultural development up to the time of his death. In addition to producing wheat, corn and other cereals usually cultivated on Illinois farms, he likewise raised broom corn, as he had done in New York, and made and sold brooms throughout this and adjoining counties.

In New York he also had a hop yard and employed many hop pickers. He was a most hospitable man, and he and his wife delighted in entertaining their many friends. They had dishes sufficient to set a table for sixty people, but on one occasion, when the house was struck by lightning, the greater part of their dishes were destroyed. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kniskern were members of the American Lutheran church, while living in New York, and after their removal to the west attended the Congregational church. They were widely recognized as earnest Christian people, and enjoyed in large measure the esteem and good will of neighbors and all with whom they came in contact.

The death of Mr. Kniskern occurred in August, 1874, when he was fifty-one years of age. For five years after his death Mrs. Kniskern continued on the home farm which she then rented and purchased a dwelling in the village of Lyndon, where she continued to reside until called to her final rest, on the 8th of March, 1907, when in her eighty-seventh year. In the family of this worthy couple were five children: Freeman, a carpenter now living in Lyndon; John, who died in his forty-ninth year; Peter, who died at the age of fourteen years; Henry, who passed away in his forty-eighth year; and Mrs. Anna L. Bouck, who was born August 6, 1857, and is the widow of Albert Bouck. They were married in New York, where she was visiting at the time. Mr. Bouck died about sixteen months later, and his widow returned to Lyndon, where she has since made her home. For four years she had charge of the postoffice at this place, her brother, John, having been appointed postmaster. She was also associated with her brother in conducting the grocery department of his store, and after his death she assumed the management of the dry goods department as well. She has since been conducting this general store for a period of nine years, and she and her brother have been in charge for fifteen years. Mrs. Bouck is a lady of good business ability, executive force and displays keen discernment in the management of her mercantile interests. She has, moreover, attractive social qualities that have won her many friends here. By her marriage she became the mother of one daughter: Neta, who is now the wife of G. D. Maxfield. They have one child, Mildred Caryl, and reside with her mother, Mrs. Bouck.

THOMAS A. DRAIN.

The history of the pioneer settlement of Whiteside county would be incomplete without the record of Thomas A. Drain, who from its earliest period has been a prominent factor in the substantial growth and improvement of this section of the state. Mr. Drain is a native of Kentucky, his birth having occurred on the 28th of November, 1832. His parents were Joseph and Julia (Walker) Drain, the former born in Kent, England, while the birth of the latter occurred in Virginia. In the winter of 1832 the parents located in McDonough county, Illinois, where they made their home for eleven years, subsequent to which time, in 1843, they took up their abode in Warren county, this state, where they lived during the succeeding ten years, while in

1854 they established their home in Whiteside county. Here the father entered a tract of government land, on which he built a log house containing but one room, with puncheon floor and clapboard roof, this being the home of the family for several years. Their family numbered five children, of whom our subject is the eldest. He has a brother, George Drain, who resides in Henry county, Illinois, while his sister Mary makes her home in Kansas. The two youngest members of the family are deceased. The death of the parents occurred in Whiteside county, and thus passed away two of the highly respected pioneer settlers of this section of the state.

Thomas A. Drain, although born in the old Blue Grass state, has spent nearly his entire life in Illinois, being an infant at the time of the removal of the family to this state, and a young man of twenty-one when he accompanied the family on their removal to Whiteside county. During the period of his boyhood and youth he assisted his father in the work of the fields, sharing with the other members of the family the hardships and trials that must necessarily be met in the establishment of a home on the frontier. His education was acquired in the common schools, where he gained a fair knowledge of the English branches. Upon attaining his majority he started out in life on his own account, and purchased forty acres of land at a dollar and a quarter per acre. He later added an additional tract of forty acres, paying for this two dollars and a half per acre, while still later he bought forty acres more at twenty cents per acre, this being secured at an auction.

He first built a small frame shanty, twelve by fourteen feet, in which he made his home for twelve years, but this home has since been replaced by a more modern and pretentious structure, and he has also added many improvements and accessories, so that his place is now a valuable property, comprising one hundred and twenty acres, from which he derives a good rental, while he is now living retired in Prophetstown. When he located in this district the Indians were still living here, while deer and other wild game were very plentiful. In 1857 he had a ten-acre field of wheat which he was compelled to watch in order to keep the wild deer and wild geese from destroying it. The nearest trading point was Peru, so that the family was put to great inconvenience in order to market their products and make their purchases of provisions and other necessities of life.

In 1858 Mr. Drain was united in marriage to Miss Anna Leavenworth, who was born in Vermont, but came to Illinois at a very early day, she being one of a family of five children. By her marriage she became the mother of six children, as follows: Julia; Carrie; Herbert, deceased; Sadie, who has also passed away; and Matie and Grace, twins. The wife and mother died in 1900, and thus passed away one of the highly esteemed women of Whiteside county, for she had gained many warm friends through her good traits of heart and mind.

Mr. Drain gives his political support to the men and measures of democracy, and has filled several township offices. He is a Mason, belonging to Blue Lodge, No. 293, at Prophetstown, and has filled most of the chairs in that body. He is identified with the society of Christian Scientists. Fifty-four years have come and gone since Mr. Drain arrived in Whiteside county,

and Prophetstown had not then been laid out. During the intervening period he has been a prominent factor in the agricultural development of this section of the state, and his memory goes back to the time when this section was but sparsely settled; when the Indians were more numerous than the white race, and the land had not been reclaimed for the purposes of cultivation, but remained in the primitive condition in which it came from the hand of nature. In former years he worked hard and energetically to acquire a comfortable competence, and now, at the advanced age of seventy-six years, he is able to live retired in a pleasant home in Prophetstown, where he is surrounded by a host of warm friends.

JAMES ST. JOHN GREENOUGH.

James St. John Greenough, who by his many friends is remembered as an enterprising and thoroughly reliable business man of Sterling, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on the 15th of March, 1847. The ancestral history is traced back to an early period in the settlement of the new world, when representatives of the name came from Scotland and settled in Boston, then a small colonial village. A member of the family at one time owned Staten Island, and several representatives of the name served as soldiers of the Revolutionary war.

James St. John Greenough was a son of James and Mary Greenough, natives of Massachusetts, in whose family were five children, three sons and two daughters, all now deceased. The father, becoming a well-to-do man, lived retired in Boston during the latter part of his life.

In the city of his nativity Mr. Greenough of this review spent his boyhood and youth to the age of nineteen years and benefited by the excellent scholastic training afforded by the public schools. In the year 1869 he arrived in Illinois and worked for the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company as a brakeman. He lost a limb by the cars, and afterward became telegraph operator, acting in that capacity for sixteen years at Rock Island Junction. On the expiration of that period he came to Sterling, where he conducted business as a wholesale and retail dealer in oil, securing a liberal patronage which brought to him a gratifying financial return. On his retirement from that field of activity he engaged in the insurance business, continuing therein until his last illness. In all of his different business relations he was found reliable and trustworthy, and the success that he achieved was attributable entirely to his own labors, as he started out in business life empty-handed.

On the 17th of January, 1877, Mr. Greenough was married to Miss Nellie E. Kitel, a daughter of George B. and Amanda (Wright) Kitel. The father was a native of Massachusetts, and the mother of Vermont. He was reared in the state of his nativity and became a railroad man. Removing westward to Illinois, he settled at Sterling in the year in which the Northwestern Railroad was built, and taking a contract for construction work, he

built the line from this point to the Mississippi river. He moved his family here on a flat car, on which he also shipped his house. He continued in railroad construction work until 1883, when he engaged in the oil business in Sterling, continuing to operate in that line until his death, which occurred March 22, 1886, at the age of sixty-one years. His widow still survives him and is well known in this city, where she has long lived. She is a communicant of the Episcopal church, of which Mr. Kitel was also a member. He was somewhat prominent in political circles and represented the Third ward of Sterling as a member of the City Council. His father was William Kitel, a native of Massachusetts, who lived in Williamstown, that state. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Greenough was Dorastus Wright, a native of Vermont, who married Sophia Bigelow Parker, a member of a family of excellent record in connection with the Revolutionary war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. George B. Kitel were born two sons and a daughter, of whom Edward R. Kitel is now deceased. The other son, Andrew W. Kitel, is a resident of Chicago. The daughter, Mrs. Greenough, still makes her home in Sterling, and by her marriage became the mother of three children: Helen M., now the wife of Frank Wahl; George D., who married Evelyn B. Coe; and Fannie M., the wife of William F. Lipp.

The death of the husband and father occurred May 28, 1902, when he was fifty-five years of age, and to his family more than to all others his loss came with telling force. He was, however, a valued resident of the community, and as a business man and citizen was thoroughly respected. He belonged to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and gave his political allegiance to the republican party.

Mrs. Greenough has in her possession a picture of the old homestead of Commodore Loring, which was built in 1760 at Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, and was purchased in 1784 by David Greenough, the great-grandfather of her husband. She also has a most interesting relic in an old sideboard that was made by hand, without nails or screws, the lumber hewn with an ax. It was brought from England on the Mayflower on the memorable voyage in which Captain Standish was in command. It has been handed down from one generation to another, and in his life time Mr. Greenough refused the sum of five hundred dollars for it, saying that he would not take five thousand. It is a most interesting piece of furniture because of its antiquity as well as its peculiar construction.

MILETUS S. HEATON.

Miletus S. Heaton has now passed the seventy-seventh milestone on life's journey and, having retired from active business cares, is now living quietly in the enjoyment of well-earned ease, deriving his income from valuable property interests. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, February 2, 1831, his parents being Tertius and Almira (Rider) Heaton, both of whom were natives of Vermont. The father was born in Montpelier and



M. S. Heaton

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came of ancestry represented in the patriotic army in the Revolutionary war. He served his country as a soldier of the war of 1812, enlisting from New York. When not engaged in military duty he followed farming and won a fair measure of success for his day. His life was characterized by industry and perseverance and those qualities never fail to bring a good return. In early manhood he wedded Almira Rider, a sister of Horatio Rider, who was also a soldier of the war of 1812. Both Mr. and Mrs. Heaton were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church and their lives were in constant harmony with their professions. The father was a whig in his political views until the organization of the republican party, when he joined its ranks. His death occurred in 1878 when he had reached the age of seventy-eight years, and his wife died in 1887 at the age of eighty-two years. Their family numbered five children, but our subject is the only one now living. Phineas R., the eldest, was born January 20, 1825, and died April 4, 1860; Orange G., born October 25, 1828, died July 24, 1865; Claudius B., born February 23, 1833, died May 19, 1841; Dorcas F., born January 15, 1836, died in December, 1898.

No event of special important occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Miletus S. Heaton in his boyhood days. He attended the country schools and from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn he worked in the fields, soon becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He continued farming in the east until the fall of 1855, when he arrived in Whiteside county, Illinois, and settled on a farm five miles northeast of Morrison in Mount Pleasant township. He bought the first ticket sold in Chicago by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad from Chicago to Morrison on the 8th day of October, 1855.

After reaching this county, Mr. Heaton bent every energy toward the development and improvement of the farm, making it a valuable property, the fields being brought under a high state of cultivation, while large crops were annually gathered. He continued to cultivate and improve his tract of land of two hundred and twenty acres until 1884, when he came to Morrison, but still owns the farm. His property interests also include two hundred and sixty acres in Mount Pleasant township and a large tract of land, a part of which is now the manufacturing addition to Morrison. He has two residence properties in the city, one of which he occupies. He wisely made investment in property, securing some of the rich farming land of Illinois—of which there is none better to be found in the whole world.

On the 27th of February, 1861, Mr. Heaton married Miss Susanna E. Churchill, a native of Clinton county, New York, born October 9, 1830. She belongs to a family that was represented in the revolutionary war, and on the paternal side is of Scotch and the maternal side of Irish descent. Her father, Joseph Churchill, was born in Benson, Vermont, January 18, 1775, and died January 25, 1848. By occupation he was a farmer. He was married September 13, 1809, at Chazy, Clinton county, New York, to Susanna Bailey, and soon after the Civil war they removed to Mooers in the same county, where Mr. Churchill died. His wife was born in Windsor, Vermont,

November 1, 1792. Her father died January 1, 1813, and her mother February 4, 1813, both dying of fever. In 1858 Mrs. Churchill came with her family to Whiteside county, Illinois, passing away here at the home of our subject, November 25, 1884. Her children were as follows: Eliza A., born October 24, 1810, died October 29, 1829; Calista, born September 28, 1812, died November 8, 1833; Joshua B., born November 11, 1814, died March 6, 1815; Benjamin L., born February 7, 1816, died March 14, 1865, in the army; Jeremiah, born May 4, 1818, was captain of a vessel on Lake Huron and was drowned April 17, 1849; Joseph B., born June 23, 1820, was a soldier of the Civil war and died March 1, 1905; George W., born April 10, 1825, died October 7, 1904; Sylvester S., born November 6, 1827, died June 26, 1884; Susanna E., wife of our subject, is the next of the family; and Charles C., born June 15, 1836, died July 22, 1887.

Mr. and Mrs. Heaton have one daughter, Nettie C., who was born in 1868 and is now the wife of William Boyd, son of John Boyd, in the employ of the Libby, McNeill & Libby milk concern. Mrs. Heaton belongs to the Presbyterian church and, like her husband, is well known and highly esteemed socially. His political endorsement is given the republican party and he has held various township offices. He does not consider himself bound by party ties, however, and voted on one occasion for Bryan. His life has been one of signal usefulness and activity and he belongs to that class of representative men who do much to uphold the political and legal status of the community and to further its substantial development along other lines.

DWIGHT SUMNER SPAFFORD.

Dwight Sumner Spafford is the oldest merchant in point of continuous connection with business interests in Whiteside county, and has won the success which follows earnest effort, close application and honorable methods. He was born in Bergen, Genesee county, New York, in 1834, and has, therefore, long since passed the scriptural age of three score years and ten. In spirit and interests, however, he seems yet in his prime, and his activity equals that of many a man of much younger years. His father, Sumner Spafford, a native of Massachusetts, was of English ancestry, and the grandfather, Jacob Spafford, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. About 1800 the family removed westward to Bergen, New York, and there Jacob Spafford bought a farm in what was known as the Holland purchase, where he remained until his death, which occurred about 1840. He prospered in his undertakings, owing to his capable management and diligence, and thus provided a good living for his family. He held membership in the Presbyterian church, and his life was actuated by high and honorable principles. His son, Sumner Spafford, accompanied him on the removal to the Empire state, and throughout his life followed the occupation of farming, dying upon the old homestead in 1858. His religious faith was that of the Presby-

terian church, and his political allegiance was given to the whig party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the new republican party. He married Delia Barber, who was of French ancestry, although the family was established in America in early days. Her father was killed in one of the Indian wars of the country. Mrs. Spafford was a devoted member of the Presbyterian church and died in that faith in 1868. They were the parents of four children: Burton J., deceased; Dwight S., of this review; Kate D., the widow of Thomas J. Tone, who at one time was engaged in teaching in Cincinnati, Ohio, but was later engaged in the grain business; and Jerome H., a farmer of Bergen, New York.

In taking up the personal history of Dwight S. Spafford, we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in this part of the state. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in the usual manner of farm lads, and through the summer months he assisted in the work of the fields, while in the winter seasons he attended the country schools. Ambitious for a more advanced education, he afterward became a student in the State Normal school of Albany, New York, from which he was graduated with the class of 1855. He taught school at Greene, New York, and at Equality, Illinois, after going to Albany. In the spring of 1856 he came to the west, settling at Equality, where he taught school for three years. In August, 1859, he arrived in the village of Morrison, and became identified with its commercial interests through a partnership formed with Orren B. Crosby, under the firm style of O. B. Crosby & Company. This relation was maintained for three years, when Mr. Crosby retired by selling his interest to Mr. Spafford, who since 1862 has been located in the building in which he is now engaged in business, and which he erected. No other merchant of the county has been so long connected with its trade interests, and no one has maintained a more unassailable reputation for business integrity and reliability. He has been very successful owing to his alert, enterprising spirit, and he is accounted one of the representative merchants and citizens of this part of the state.

In 1865 Mr. Spafford was married to Miss Anne E. Robertson, who was born in Union Grove township and died in 1885. There were four children of that marriage: Frank S., who is inspector of government surveys of Idaho, making his home in Boise, is married and has three children; John Earl, who is married and makes his home in Leigh, Nebraska, where he is acting as cashier of the Maple Valley State Bank; Roy R., secretary of the C. D. Gallentine Company, of Morrison, who is married and has one child; and Fred Dwight, a student in the Illinois University, at Champaign. Mr. Spafford was again married in 1890, his second union being with Alice Smith, a native of Lyons, Iowa, and a daughter of Leander Smith. They have three children: Leander Smith, a student of the Kentucky Military Academy, at Lyndon; Ruth, who is in school; and Allen, who is likewise in school.

Mr. Spafford is a prominent Mason, having attained the thirty-second degree, and is also connected with the Shrine. In politics he is a republican, recognized as one of the stalwart workers in republican ranks, and one whose opinions carry weight and influence. He has served as school director, as a

member of the board of supervisors, and as president of the board of education. Still higher political honors have been accorded him, for he was elected to the thirty-fourth general assembly, and had the distinction of being one of the memorable one hundred and three who supported General Logan and elected him to the United States senate. He has ever been a man fearless in support of his honest convictions and of unswerving loyalty to any cause or movement which he believes to be right. He stands as a man among men, strong in his honor and his good name, strong in his ability to plan and perform. His life history proves that success and an untarnished name may be won simultaneously.

ALBERT B. JOHNSON.

Albert B. Johnson resides on section 13, Montmorency township, where he is the owner of a good farm of two hundred and forty acres. The fields are well tilled and as the years have passed by he has gained substantial benefits from his work. Born in Lee county, Illinois, on the 26th of January, 1873, he is the second in order of birth in a family of four children, whose parents were Bernard and Eva (Juelfs) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Germany. They crossed the Atlantic to the new world in 1864, and from the east made their way at once into the interior of the country, locating in Lee county, Illinois, where the father worked as a farm hand. In that way he gained his start, and when he had acquired a fair sum of money he bought a farm in Lee county, upon which he lived for a few years. After disposing of that property he bought land in Whiteside county, and for a considerable period was actively and successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits. At length he retired from business life, and is now enjoying well merited rest in Rock Falls. Unto him and his wife were born two sons and two daughters: Mamie, now the wife of John Terhune, a resident of Lee county, Illinois; Albert B.; Effie, the wife of Henry Erd, of Ohio; and Fred, who is living in Whiteside county.

Albert B. Johnson was a young man when the parents removed to this county, and is indebted to its public school system for the educational privileges he enjoyed. Through the periods of vacation and after completing his studies he worked upon the farm, being thus engaged until twenty-seven years of age. He then made preparation for having a home of his own through his marriage to Miss Olive Pettitt, who was born in Rock Falls in 1880, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Pettitt, the former a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Whiteside county, Illinois. Her father's family numbered five children: Herbert R., now of Chicago; Mrs. Johnson; Nellie F., and Ruth E., both at home; and one deceased. The parents are now living in Chicago. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson has been blessed with a son and two daughters: Loyd L., Florence E. and Ruth E.

For four years after his marriage Albert B. Johnson cultivated a tract of rented land. Ambitious to become the owner of a farm, he and his wife

worked industriously and lived economically, until they at length were enabled to purchase four hundred acres lying partly in Whiteside county and partly in Lee county. Upon that place they resided for a year, when Mr. Johnson sold the farm and bought his present place, comprising two hundred and forty acres on section 13, Montmorency township. It has since been his home, and in its neat and well kept appearance indicates the careful supervision and practical methods of the owner. The early spring planting followed by cultivation through the summer, results in the gathering of good harvests in the autumn, and for his crops Mr. Johnson finds a ready sale on the market. He is also engaged in raising and feeding stock.

In community affairs Mr. Johnson is interested, has served as treasurer of the board of commissioners and as a member of the board of drainage commissioners, and endorses every movement that is calculated to prove of general benefit to the community. Both he and his wife attend and support the Lutheran church.

BURT A. STURTEVANT.

Burt A. Sturtevant is the most extensive stock feeder of northern Illinois, and in his business interests the public has also profited, in that he furnished an excellent market for the stock raisers of this and other localities. His marked enterprise and aptitude for successful management are continually manifest in one phase or another of his successful career. Moreover, he is as popular socially as he is prominent in business circles, and thus indicates the possession of qualities of geniality, kindness and consideration for others.

Mr. Sturtevant was born in Prophetstown, July 31, 1870, in the same room in which his mother's birth occurred. It is the oldest house in the town, and stands just in the rear of the Farmers' National Bank. Spending his boyhood under the parental roof and pursuing his education in the public schools, at the age of sixteen years Burt A. Sturtevant began farming for himself and early manifested those traits of character and specific qualities which in later years have made him a most prominent business man. After three years he married and took up his abode upon the home farm, near Prophetstown, there living for twelve years. He then again became a resident of the village, and built his present fine home, which he has occupied since the 10th of November, 1899. The farm which he owns consisted originally of two hundred acres, and later he purchased another track of two hundred acres. At other times he has extended the boundaries of his place until he now owns five hundred and sixty acres in one body on sections 21, 22, 23 and 26, Fenton township. He has erected all of the buildings upon the place with the exception of the dwelling, which he rebuilt. He now keeps a tenant on the farm while he is extensively engaged in feeding stock. In this business he is in partnership with his father, but owing to his father's ill health during the last two years almost the entire management of the business has devolved upon the son. In the year 1907 he shipped fifty-one carloads

of cattle and six carloads of hogs, and his business, exceeding that of all others, he is today the largest stock feeder in northern Illinois. His judgment is never amiss in determining the value of cattle, and placing his stock in excellent condition, he finds for them a ready sale upon the market.

Mr. Sturtevant is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the lodge and chapter at Prophetstown and the Knight Templar commandery at Sterling, being also identified with the Mystic Shrine at Rockford, and the consistory at Freeport, Illinois, thus attaining the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He is likewise a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Prophetstown, and in his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit upon which these orders are based.

On the 27th of December, 1888, Mr. Sturtevant was married to Miss Mary J. Pratt, whose birth occurred at Lyndon, this county, August 25, 1864. She is a daughter of Charles and Amelia (Sharrett) Pratt, both of whom were of French parentage. The mother is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Sturtevant, but Mr. Pratt, having enlisted from Whiteside county, died after his return from the army. Mrs. Sturtevant is the eldest of four children, the others being: Flora, now the wife of Mark Stowell, of Prophetstown; William, a resident of Waterloo, Iowa; and Mrs. Ora De Zano, who died at Port Byron, Illinois. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sturtevant has been blessed with two children: Hazel P., who was born January 4, 1890, and died March 17, 1891; and Hamlin A., born November 18, 1905. The parents are widely known in this county, where they have spent their entire lives. Mr. Sturtevant is, indeed, a whole-souled man, a good entertainer and a genial companion who quickly recognizes the humor of a situation, and is equally appreciative of the good in others. The attainment of wealth has never been allowed to influence him in his relations with his fellowmen, and his life record is an exemplification of the Emersonian philosophy that, "The way to win a friend is to be one."

WILLIAM H. BENNETT.

William H. Bennett, a distinguished corporation lawyer of Minneapolis, was at one time a prominent member of the Whiteside county bar and an influential citizen of Sterling. He twice served as mayor of the city, and in many ways promoted its interests, leading to substantial improvement and development. His friends are still so numerous in the county that the record of his life cannot fail to prove of interest to many of our readers.

Mr. Bennett was born in Scotland, Windham county, Connecticut, June 28, 1843, an only child of Samuel F. and Harriet (Spaulding) Bennett, who were natives of Connecticut. The Bennett family was established in America in early colonial days, and comes of English lineage, the first representatives of the name having settled at Ipswich, Massachusetts. In 1740 they went to Connecticut, and there a farm was purchased in Windham county, which has since never been out of the possession of the Bennett family, being now the property of William H. Bennett of this review. The progenitor of the

family in the United States was William Henry Bennett. The grandfather, William Bennett, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, aiding loyally in winning independence for the colonies. He followed farming as a life work and died at the advanced age of ninety-five years. His wife, Mrs. Sarah (Giddings) Bennett, was of Welsh lineage. In their family were five children, including Samuel F. Bennett, who always followed farming as a means of livelihood and remained a resident of Connecticut until called to the home beyond, in 1889, when about eighty-three years of age. His wife died when about thirty-six years of age. They were members of the Congregational church and were earnest, consistent Christian people.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Benjamin Spaulding, a native of Connecticut, who carried on agricultural pursuits in Windham county. He married Pamela Carter, a native of Canterbury, Connecticut. The Spauldings lived for many years at Pomfret, Connecticut, and Mrs. Spaulding reached the advanced age of ninety-six years, while her husband passed away some years before. She was his second wife, his first union being with a Miss Ingalls, who became the mother of Mrs. Samuel F. Bennett.

Through the period of his boyhood, youth and early manhood, William H. Bennett remained a resident of the state of his nativity. He was born in Scotland, Connecticut, but spent his early life in Hampton, and liberal educational advantages were afforded him. He pursued his preparatory course in the Philips Academy, and afterward attended Yale College at New Haven, from which he was graduated in 1866. He then taught school for one year at Easton, Connecticut, after which he became a law student in the Albany Law School, and was admitted to the bar of New York at Albany in 1868. He sought the west as being a more advantageous field for a young professional man, and the same year came to Sterling, where he arrived in the fall. Here he entered the office of Frederick Sackett, with whom he formed a partnership under the firm style of Sackett & Bennett. Later Mr. Sackett removed to Chicago, while Mr. Bennett continued in practice in Sterling, and soon secured a liberal clientage, connecting him with much important litigation tried in the courts of the district. A few years later he formed a partnership with Henry Green, and the firm of Bennett & Green continued in active practice until the fall of 1888, when Mr. Bennett went to Minneapolis, becoming a partner in the firm of Koon, Whelan & Bennett. This firm has been connected with the Minneapolis bar for the past twenty years, and has a large and important corporation clientele. They are attorneys for the Minneapolis Street Railway Company, the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie Railway Company, the Pillsbury-Washburn Flour Mills Company, Limited, the Northwestern National Bank, the Minneapolis General Electric Company, and a number of other leading business houses and corporations of that city. Mr. Bennett is well versed as a general practitioner of law, but in recent years has confined his attention more closely to the law dealing with corporations, and never enters now into criminal law practice, confining his attention largely to his specialty.

In January, 1873, while in Sterling, Mr. Bennett was married to Miss Frances Green, a daughter of John and Caroline Green. They became the

parents of one child, Frances. The mother died in November, 1873, and in 1876 Mr. Bennett wedded Miss Kate Prescott Wright, of Bridgeport, Connecticut, a daughter of George A. and Jane (Prescott) Wright. There were two children of the second marriage, Kate Townsend and Jane Prescott Bennett.

Mrs. Bennett is a member of the Episcopal church; while Mr. Bennett is a Unitarian in religious belief. In politics he is a stalwart republican, and while living in Sterling was twice elected mayor of the city. He held the office of alderman for several terms, and was a member of the board of school trustees of Sterling township for many years. In the discharge of his duties he was prompt and capable, regarding a public office as a public trust, and in the exercise of his official prerogatives promoting the interests of Sterling in no uncertain manner. He yet has many friends in the city, who esteem him as one who contributed to its business and municipal life, while his social qualities endeared him to many with whom he came in contact.

CHARLES GRANDISON CURTIS.

Charles Grandison Curtis, who for many years was honorably and successfully connected with agricultural interests in Whiteside county, departed this life on the 1st of May, 1902. He was born in Milo, New York, in 1826, and had therefore attained the seventy-sixth milestone on life's journey when called to the home beyond. His parents were Robert Y. and Lois (Torrence) Curtis, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of New York. They were married in the Empire state and for many years the father followed the profession of school teaching there. His wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and both died in New York.

In his boyhood days Charles G. Curtis attended the common schools. He early became familiar with farm work and, thinking that he would find better opportunities for advancement in agricultural lines in the middle west, he came to Illinois in 1857 and for a short time resided at Lyndon. He afterward engaged in the cultivation of a rented farm in Mount Pleasant township for seven years, on the expiration of which period he removed south of Round Grove, where he invested the capital that he had saved from his earnings in an eighty-acre tract of land. Upon that place he took up his abode and made it his residence until his death. In his farming operations he so managed his interests that he won success, annually gathering good crops as the reward of the care and labor which he bestowed upon his fields.

In 1855 Mr. Curtis was united in marriage to Miss Lucinda Raplee, who was born in Milo, New York, in 1830, a daughter of Robert and Mima Florence Raplee. Her father was of French extraction and was a farmer by occupation. He came to Illinois about 1858 and settled in Lyndon township, where he lived for eight years, after which he removed to Missouri, where his last days were spent. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis had one child, Evangeline, who was born in 1857 and died in 1884. She was the wife of Everett



MISS EVANGELINE CURTIS



MRS. LUCINDA CURTIS

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Fisk, of Mount Pleasant township, and they had one child, Ethan B. Fisk, now in Clinton, Iowa.

Mr. Curtis devoted his entire life to farming, and his business record was characterized by the utmost integrity as well as industry. He was charitably disposed, stood well among his neighbors and advocated many progressive public measures. His many good qualities therefore gained for him the esteem of his fellowmen and caused his death to be deeply regretted by those who knew him. Since her husband's demise Mrs. Curtis has removed to Morrison, where she now makes her home. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has many friends in the city.

JAMES W. ROSS.

James W. Ross, a retired agriculturist and one of the leading citizens of Fulton, was born in Clarendon, Rutland county, Vermont, May 25, 1838, his parents being Walter and Eliza (Webb) Ross, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts, respectively. Members of the Ross family emigrated to America and settled in Massachusetts in an early day, while the Webbs came to America from England prior to the Revolutionary war, likewise locating in Massachusetts, some members of the latter family serving in the war for independence. The paternal grandparents of James W. Ross had the following children who grew to maturity, but all of them are now deceased: Walter; Gary, of Michigan; James; Volney, and Ephriam, who were residents of Vermont; Phoebe, who was the wife of John White, of Vermont; and Mercy, the wife of William Potter, likewise of the Green Mountain state. Walter Ross, the father of our subject, filled various official positions in his native town, and twice represented his county in the state legislature. His death occurred in 1871, when he had attained the age of seventy-one years, while his wife passed away in 1874, when sixty-nine years of age. Their family numbered nine children: Catherine, deceased, who was the wife of M. B. Brown, of Vermont; Melvina, the deceased wife of Leo McDonough, of McDonough county, Illinois; Loantha, deceased, who was the wife of R. R. Kinsman, who has also passed away; Luceba, the deceased wife of L. G. Kingsley; James W., of this review; John W., of Rutland, Vermont; Aldis D. L., who likewise resided in Rutland, Vermont, but has now passed away; George W., of Vergennes, Vermont; and Elbridge W., deceased.

James W. Ross attended the common schools of his native state, and though he received but a limited education in early life, he has since become a well informed man through reading, experience and observation. He was reared on the home farm and remained under the parental roof until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he joined Company K, First Vermont Volunteer Infantry, participating in the battle of Big Bethel with the Army of Virginia. After the expiration of his three months' term of enlistment he was honorably discharged and returned to his home, but in 1863 was attached to the quartermaster's staff. During the greater part of the time he

was located at Pilot Knob and Belleview, Missouri, and, being captured on September 27, 1864, was held as a prisoner for a short time. After being paroled he returned to his department and served in the army until June, 1865, when he was mustered out at Pilot Knob, returning home with a most creditable military record.

On again taking up the pursuits of civil life, he followed farming until 1871, when he came to Illinois, locating within four miles of Fulton, where he purchased seventy-six acres of land at thirty dollars per acre. He met with a gratifying measure of success in his agricultural interests, and when opportunity offered added one hundred and eighteen acres to his original tract. By reason of his well directed labor and sound business judgment in the conduct of his farming interests, he acquired the competence that enabled him to retire from active life in 1895, and he has since resided in Fulton, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil.

In 1867 Mr. Ross was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Barney, of Shrewsbury, Vermont, a daughter of J. A. and Harriet (Ewing) Barney, likewise of Vermont. Representatives of both the Ewing and Barney families came to America in an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Ross have two children: Frances, the wife of John S. Moyer, of Fulton; and Gertrude, at home, who is a teacher by profession.

Politically, Mr. Ross is a republican, having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1861. For five years he served as supervisor from Ustick township, his term beginning in 1890, and for six years, beginning in 1896, he served as supervisor from Fulton township. His long retention in the office is incontrovertible proof of his capability and fidelity in the discharge of his duties and of the trust reposed in him by his fellowmen. He has long been recognized as one of the county's influential and enterprising citizens, and it is with pleasure that we present his life record to our readers.

JOHN D. AREY.

John D. Arey, highly esteemed as a citizen and a man of sterling integrity of character, has for many years been a resident of Whiteside county, and few, if any, have more intimate knowledge of the events which have shaped its history and formulated its policy. He is numbered among the old settlers of Rock Falls and Sterling, and now makes his home in the latter city, residing at No. 207 Ninth avenue. His birth occurred at South Wellfleet, Cape Cod, September 7, 1834. There were two brothers of the Arey family who came from England to America in colonial days and settled in Maine. Reuben Arey, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Massachusetts and a tanner by trade, following that business through much of his life. He was almost a centenarian at his death, and his wife likewise reached an advanced age.

Richard Arey, father of John D. Arey, was born in Massachusetts, and in early manhood carried on merchandising at South Wellfleet. In May, 1844,

however, he came to the middle west, settling in what was then Rapid City, now Rock Falls, where he followed farming. He became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, nearly all of which is now included within the city limits. He died in 1897, lacking but a month of being eighty-eight years of age. He married Martha Davis, a daughter of Rev. Timothy Davis, who was born in Massachusetts and became a minister of the Congregational church, preaching in the New England states. He was twice married and had almost attained the age of one hundred years when called from this life. The Davis family was of Welsh lineage. His daughter, Mrs. Arey, died in 1852, at the comparatively early age of thirty-nine years. She was a member of the Congregational church, to which Richard Arey also belonged. After the death of his first wife he was married again. Somewhat active in community affairs, he held several town offices and was the first supervisor of Coloma. By his first marriage he had eight children, five sons and three daughters: John D.; James C., a resident of Rock Falls; Catharine and Timothy, both deceased; Richard, also living in Rock Falls; Ezra W., living in Sedalia, Missouri; Mary, the widow of J. W. Nims and a resident of De Smet, South Dakota; and Martha, the wife of Merritt Green, of Marshalltown, Iowa.

John D. Arey spent the first ten years of his life in the town of his nativity and then came with his parents to Whiteside county, being reared to manhood at Rock Falls. His education was acquired in Sterling, and for two terms he engaged in teaching school, after which he took up surveying, which has been his occupation continuously since 1860. In this connection he has become widely known and has done a good business, being at all times a man of enterprise, industry and perseverance.

On the 5th of July, 1856, Mr. Arey was married to Miss Mary E. Jenkins, a daughter of William and Abigail (Brown) Jenkins, who were natives of Cayuga county, New York. The former was a son of Joshua Jenkins, who was born in the Empire state in 1771. He enlisted for service in the war of 1812 and died while at the front. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Remember Bowen, was born in 1772 and lived to an advanced age. Their family numbered six children. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Arey was Benjamin Brown, a native of New York and a farmer by occupation, who died at an advanced age in Cayuga county. His wife, Mrs. Abigail Brown, survived him for some time, and was also quite aged when called to her final rest. They were the parents of five sons and three daughters. At the time of the Revolutionary war Benjamin Brown espoused the cause of the colonists and fought for the independence of the nation, as did his father.

William Jenkins, father of Mrs. Arey, was a contractor and builder, who in the spring of 1856 came to the west. His wife, however, died that fall, and he returned to the state of New York. Prior to this time they had lived for sixteen years in Lee, Massachusetts. Upon his return to the Empire state Mr. Jenkins settled in Genesee county, where he married again, his second union being with Rachel Weeks, who still survives him and now lives in Sidney, his death having occurred in 1874, when he was sixty years of age. By his first marriage Mr. Jenkins had two sons and three daughters, of whom

three are now living: Mrs. Arey; Edgar, of Warwick, New York; and Mrs. Ann Allen, of Auburn, New York. By the second marriage there were two daughters: Cornelia, the wife of Dr. La Mott Day, of Sidney, New York; and Alta, the wife of Charles Randall, of Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Arey was blessed with five children: Harriet, the eldest daughter, became the wife of Miles Standish Griswold, who is now deceased, and she lives at home with her parents. George is also at home. Mabel is an artist, connected with Marshall Field's store in Chicago. Edwin died at the age of twelve years. Fred, living at Auburn, New York, is assistant superintendent there for the International Harvester Company. He married Miss Ethel Gordon, and they have two children, Miriam G. and Gordon.

Mrs. Arey is a member of the Congregational church. Politically Mr. Arey is a republican and has been prominent in the councils of his party. He was also surveyor of Whiteside county for six years, was town clerk about fifteen years and justice of the peace for several terms. In these various positions he was found loyal to the trust reposed in him, discharging his duties with both capability and promptness. He spent about fifteen years of his life in Chicago, as engineer and superintendent of the construction of the West Side boulevards, returning to Sterling in 1902, where he has since made his home. He commands the respect of all who know him, for in citizenship and in business he has been found equally reliable and has, moreover, displayed those traits of consideration, kindness and deference for the opinions of others that have gained for him the warm friendship of many with whom he has been brought in contact. More than six decades have passed since he arrived in this county, and great have been the changes which have occurred since that time. He has witnessed the development that has been carried forward along many lines, and in his capacity of surveyor has been closely associated with the settlement and improvement of the county.

JOHN H. WARD.

Illinois is pre-eminently an agricultural state, and the men who have been its founders and upbuilders have largely been identified with farming. The growth and progress of any state depends not upon a few, but upon the loyal citizenship of the great majority. John H. Ward was one who, in the faithful performance of each day's duties, contributed to the general prosperity and to the upbuilding of his community. He was well known for about twenty years as a successful agriculturist and horse breeder of Whiteside county, where he carried on the business up to the time of his death, on the 3d of September, 1881.

He was born in the state of New York, April 23, 1820, his parents being Naham M. and Diadena (Diver) Ward. The Wards are of English lineage, but are an old New England family. John H. Ward was the eldest of three

children. His brother, Charles Ward, died at Morrison in August, 1896, after a long residence in this county. He located in Mount Pleasant township in 1864, and was the owner of a fine farm on section 1. The other brother, George Ward, spent some time in this county, where he located about 1860, and later left Illinois and spent his last days in the state of New York, where he died about twenty-seven years ago.

John H. Ward was reared in the Empire state, and in early manhood followed farming in Niagara county. On selling his interests there he came to this county, in 1862, and purchased eighty acres, to which he afterward added two tracts of forty acres each at later periods, thus becoming the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of Illinois' rich farming land. He was a successful business man and agriculturist, and in connection with the tilling of the soil for the production of crops he conducted a prosperous business as a stockman, breeding and dealing in horses. He was widely known for his unassailable integrity in business transactions, as well as for the unfaltering industry which won him prosperity.

Mr. Ward was married in DeRuyter, New York, to Miss Mary E. Bump, a native of that locality who, long surviving her husband, died in this county January 23, 1898, when more than sixty-six years of age. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ward were highly esteemed by many friends. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, and he was always loyal to its interests, though never an office seeker. Since the family was established in this county, in 1862, the name has ever been a synonym for reliability and agricultural activity here.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward reared a family of two sons and a daughter. John F., the eldest, born October 26, 1858, in Niagara county, New York, was but four years of age when brought by his parents to Whiteside county, where he acquired a common school education. He has resided mainly on the home farm, where he is now living. On the 14th of March, 1889, he was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia E. Michael, a native of Columbia county, New York, who was reared, however, in Wisconsin. Her parents were Jacob and Jane (Hornfager) Michael, the former now deceased, while the mother is a resident of Iowa county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. John F. Ward have two sons: Clark L. and Jay H. Mr. Ward owns and cultivates one hundred and sixty acres of finely improved land, and also engaged in the raising and feeding of stock.

Mary A. Ward, born June 6, 1860, is the wife of John Gridley, a resident farmer of Ustick township, and they have four children: Ward, Mabel, Guy and John W. Further mention of this family is made on another page of this volume.

Charles H. Ward, who was born September 10, 1863, upon the home farm in Mount Pleasant township, has always resided in this county. He mastered the elementary branches of learning in the public schools, and afterward spent one winter in Fulton College. Determining to follow the occupation of farming as his life work, he secured his present place, comprising eighty acres of well improved land on section 3, Mount Pleasant township. He also owns some timberland north of Morrison, and has met with

well merited and gratifying success owing to his well defined labor and unflinching activity. On the 12th of April, 1904, he wedded Miss Irma Nowlen, a native of this county and a daughter of Robert and Libbie (Preston) Nowlen, who were early residents of Mount Pleasant township, coming to Illinois from New York. Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Ward have two sons, John M. and George W.

Politically, the brothers are republicans, and both are enterprising men who stand as worthy representatives of the farming interests of Whiteside county and as respected members of one of the early families of this part of the state.

FRANK MILLHOUSE.

Numbered among the energetic and progressive farmers of Whiteside county is Frank Millhouse, who was born in Jordan township, in November, 1872, and is a representative of one of the early families here, his parents, Jacob and Mary (Eshleman) Millhouse, arriving in the year 1857. The paternal grandparents were Arthur and Elizabeth (Hevil) Millhouse, who were of English descent, and at an early day became residents of Pennsylvania. Their family numbered fifteen children, Mary, Jacob, Elizabeth, Susan, Lydia, Asher, Nancy, John, Reuben, Henry, Euphemia, Caroline, Ann, Sophia and George. Five of this number are now living, Asher, George, Reuben, Henry and Jacob.

Reared in the east, Jacob Millhouse, after arriving at years of maturity, was married in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on the 20th of September, 1852, to Miss Mary Eshleman, a daughter of Jacob and Madeline (Koffman) Eshleman, natives of Pennsylvania. Their family numbered eight children, Elias K., Isaac H., Mary, Elizabeth, Hiram, Isaac, Nathaniel and Jacob, all of whom have passed away with the exception of Mary and Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Millhouse began their domestic life in the east, where they resided until 1857, when they removed westward to Illinois, settling in Whiteside county upon a farm which is now the old family homestead. The father purchased eighty acres of land at twenty-five dollars per acre. As the years have passed its value has constantly increased, until it is now a fine property, owing to the cultivation that has been bestowed upon it, and the many improvements that have been there placed. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Millhouse were born two daughters, while Frank Millhouse, of this review, is the only son. His sister, Lydia, became the wife of Jeremiah Hess, and died in 1881, leaving three children, Ida, Maggie and Lizzie. Amanda is the wife of Aaron Hackman, a resident of Sterling, and they have two children, Franklin and Delilah.

Frank Millhouse, whose name introduces this record, is living on the old homestead, conducting the farm and caring for his parents in the evening of life. His father and mother have traveled life's journey together as man and wife for fifty-six years, sharing with each other in the joys and sorrows,

the adversity and prosperity which checker the careers of all. Looking back across the busy years they realize that there is much to be grateful for and many blessings have come to them. They have witnessed the many marvelous changes which have occurred in Whiteside county since their arrival here more than a half century ago. That was the day of the ox teams, the scythe and the cradle, and there was little connection with the outside world. There were no large school houses, magnificent churches or costly residences, and there was an equal absence of telegraphs, telephones and railroads. In fact, many evidences of pioneer life were still to be seen here, but the work of civilization was being carried forward by the early settlers, and the Millhouse family bore their part in the labors that have brought about the modern civilization and improvement. The parents have lived to see the development of towns and hamlets into thriving cities and villages, while the prairie has been converted into richly cultivated farms which yield abundantly of the products of the soil. The rural free delivery now brings the mail to their door daily, and the telephone affords direct communication with neighbors and friends.

Frank Millhouse was reared to the labors of the farm and has followed agriculture as a life occupation. As the years have gone by he has more and more largely relieved his father of the work of the fields until he is now in charge of the home farm, which under his care and supervision is kept in a high state of cultivation and presents a most attractive and thrifty appearance.

Mr. Millhouse was married December 19, 1894, to Miss Ida K. Hoover, a daughter of Amos and Barbara (Groff) Hoover, natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. They came to Whiteside county at an early day and cast in their lot with the pioneer settlers. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Millhouse have been born four children: Glenn, Gladys, Eva and Harry.

Mr. Millhouse votes with the republican party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, as he prefers to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, which, carefully directed, are bringing to him well merited success.

HENRY GREEN.

Henry Green, lawyer and banker, was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, May 17, 1846. In 1850 he removed with his parents to Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where he continued to reside until about twenty years of age. He prepared for college at Clark Seminary, Aurora, and at the academy of Northwestern University, and was graduated at Northwestern University, Evanston, in 1873, having taken the full classical course. Immediately after graduating, he began the study of law in Chicago. In February, 1875, he removed to Sterling, Illinois, continuing the study of law in the law office of William H. Bennett, and was admitted to the bar in September, 1876.

Upon admission to the bar, Mr. Green formed a partnership with Mr. Bennett, under the firm name of Bennett & Green, and continued the prac-

tice of law in Sterling until July, 1901. In October, 1901, he was elected cashier of the First National Bank of Sterling, to succeed William A. Sanborn, who died October 24, 1901. About a year later he resigned on account of impaired health, and was succeeded as cashier by Thomas S. McKinney. For several years he passed the winters in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, and in the mountains of Colorado and old Mexico. On the death of Thomas S. McKinney, which occurred July 1, 1905, he was again elected cashier of said bank, which office he still holds. During the four years which he has been cashier, the bank has had a most successful career, and has undergone extensive improvements. An electric burglar alarm has been installed and the bank has been rebuilt and remodeled throughout. It is an attractive structure architecturally, with fine interior finishings and thoroughly modern equipments.

Mr. Green was married to Harriet T. Brookfield, June 30, 1881. They have two sons, Charles H. and Howard S. The former was graduated at the Illinois State University in 1903, as mechanical engineer, and Howard is now a junior in the same university.

Mr. Green served as mayor of Sterling for one term, and has been a member of Wallace school board for about twenty-eight years. He also has been a member of the library board for a number of years, and rendered valuable services in the building of the Carnegie library in Sterling. In politics Mr. Green has always been a republican, casting his first vote for Ulysses S. Grant for president in 1868.

DANIEL LARISH.

Varied business interests have claimed the time and attention of Daniel Larish, who is connected with the agricultural life of the county and is also a real-estate dealer. Illinois claims him as a native son, for his birth occurred in Carroll county, February 24, 1859. He is the eldest of the six children of Rufus and Jane (Weller) Larish, natives of Pennsylvania and Martinsburg, West Virginia, respectively. The Larish family comes of French origin and the grandfather of our subject served as a soldier in the war of 1812.

Rufus Larish was a farmer by occupation and with his parents came to Illinois in his boyhood days, the family home being established at Dixon. Not long afterward Rufus Larish entered land in Fairhaven township, Lee county, and following the Civil war that property was sold and a removal made to Mount Carroll. He subsequently bought land in Montgomery county, Iowa, where he lived for seven years, but in 1874 he lost his property there and came to Morrison. He is now an inmate of the Soldiers' Home at Quincy, Illinois, having enlisted in April, 1861, in response to the call for troops to preserve the Union. Hardly had the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when he joined the army and for three years did valiant duty as one of the boys in blue. He became a member of the



D. Larish

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Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and made an excellent record upon the battlefields of the south. He holds membership in the United Brethren church, is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and votes with the republican party. The mother also survives and is now living in Fulton, at the age of seventy-four years. Their children are as follows: Daniel, of this review; William, who is serving on the night police force at Fulton; Mary, the wife of Samuel Machel, a mechanic of Morrison; Albert, who is in the state of Washington; Minnie, of Fulton, Illinois; and Edward, who is in the employ of the Northwestern Railroad Company and makes his home in Clinton, Iowa.

As a farmer boy Daniel Larish attended the district schools and later enjoyed the additional privilege of three years' study in Mount Carroll Seminary. His life has been a busy and active one and various interests have claimed his time and attention. He has followed farming and real-estate dealing and in all of his undertakings has been successful. He is a man of sound judgment and keen discrimination and rarely if ever makes a mistake in matters of business discernment or sagacity.

In December, 1880, was celebrated the marriage of Daniel Larish and Miss Artie J. Hulett, who was born in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, in 1861, her parents being Lyman A. and Lorinda (Willis) Hulett, both natives of Indiana, whence they came to Whiteside county, settling in Mount Pleasant township, where the father purchased land. He carried on farming until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted for active duty in the field and went to the front. Becoming ill with smallpox, he died within two months after his return home. His political views were indicated by the stalwart endorsement which he gave to the republican party at the polls. His wife long survived him and died in 1904, at the age of sixty-eight years. Their family numbered four children: George W. and Eliza Ann, deceased; Mrs. Larish; and Eva May, the wife of Edward Curtis, of Morrison. Mrs. Larish is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has many friends here. Mr. Larish owns a fine residence property in Morrison and other dwellings in the city and has an interest in farm lands which yield him a good annual income and make him one of the men of affluence of this locality.

HARVEY PACKER.

Among the residents of Rock Falls who have retired from active business life is numbered Harvey Packer, at one time numbered among the energetic business men of the city. He has now passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Bennington, Vermont, June 22, 1827. His paternal grandfather was the Rev. Benjamin Packer, a Baptist minister, who devoted his life to his holy calling and died in Vermont when well advanced in years. The father, Benjamin Packer, a native of the Green Mountain state, was a millwright and an expert mechanic. In 1829 he removed

to Saratoga county, New York. In the meantime, however, he had wedded Miss Mary Johnson, who was usually called Polly. She, too, was a native of Vermont and was a daughter of Jedediah Johnson, who was born in that state and served his country as a soldier of the Revolutionary war. He died in Saratoga county, New York, at an advanced age. After the removal of the parents of our subject to the Empire state they remained residents of Saratoga county for a number of years and then came to the middle west, settling in Stark county, Illinois, where Benjamin Packer died at the venerable age of ninety years, his wife having passed away only a few years before. He was called out during the war of 1812 but engaged in no active service.

Harvey Packer was only about two years of age at the time the family removed to New York and was reared in the town of Galway, Saratoga county, upon the home farm, which he assisted his father in clearing and improving as the years passed by. The educational advantages which he received were those offered by the district schools. Attracted by the opportunities of the growing west he came to Stark county, Illinois, in 1851, the choice of his destination being decided by the fact that he had a brother here. A few months later, however, he removed to De Kalb county, Illinois, where he carried on farming for two years and also engaged in general merchandising. He further extended the scope of his activities by becoming manager of a factory for the manufacture of agricultural implements. In 1878 he came to Rock Falls and entered the employ of the Keystone Manufacturing Company, engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements. Mr. Packer is a man of marked mechanical ingenuity and inventive ability, his research, investigation and experiment resulting in the invention of a power corn sheller and corn cultivator, walking and riding plows and other implements, together with farm windmills for watering stock. Thus he has given to the world many useful devices. He also had charge of the improvements made in the Keystone Manufacturing Company but in 1886 he sold his interest in the business and removed to Aurora, where he lived for twelve years. He then returned to Rock Falls, where he has made his home continuously to the present time, and during the last period of his residence here he has lived retired.

On the 9th of May, 1849, occurred the marriage of Mr. Packer and Miss Charlotte Bass, a daughter of Samuel and Charlotte (Hagedorn) Bass, who were natives of the state of New York, where occurred the death of her paternal grandfather. The maternal grandfather was Jonathan Hagedorn, who was one of the best known men of Saratoga county. He was a thrifty business man and accumulated a handsome fortune for those days. He married Abigail York, whose father was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The father of Mrs. Packer died in Fulton county, New York, in 1841, at the age of forty-nine years. He served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812. His first wife died in 1835, at the age of thirty-five years, and he afterward married Louisa Lewis. By his first marriage there were four children, of whom two are now living, the brother of Mrs. Packer being Jonathan Bass, who resides in Rochester, New York, at about the age of ninety years. Her father by his second marriage had three children, two of whom survive: Frances Augusta, the wife of Hiram Shipman, who is now living in the village of Northville.

Fulton county, New York; and Margaret Jane, the wife of Michael Newton, of Northville.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Packer were born six children, namely: James H., resides in Chicago, where he is identified with the Board of Trade. He married Eve Cottrell, by whom he has a son, Elery. John F. is engaged in the livery business at La Grange, Illinois. For his first wife he wedded Josephine Cox, who died leaving two daughters, Grace and Jessie. For his second wife he wedded Mrs. Emma Cottrell, a sister of his brother James' wife. She became the mother of two sons, Fay and Harley, and is now deceased. Mr. Packer was married a third time, this union being with Mrs. Idel Rogers, by whom he has one son, Jay. George W. Packer, the third member of the family, is deceased. He was at one time identified with the Keystone Works, acting as superintendent of the plant but afterward went to Chicago, where he was mechanical expert for the Deering Harvester Company, from whom he received a salary of six thousand dollars per year. He wedded Miss Lydia Rogers, by whom he had three children, Ray, Pearl and Glen. Frank Packer died at the age of eight months. Harriet is the wife of J. M. Bickford, of Sterling, Illinois. Their marriage has been blessed with three children, Viola May, Mark Dean and Charlotte. Nettie Viola Packer is the wife of E. S. Tucker, a resident of Oakland, California, by whom she has three children, Dorothy, Gordon and Elizabeth Viola.

Mr. Packer has long been a stalwart advocate of the republican party but has never sought nor desired office. His wife belongs to the Baptist church. They have now traveled life's journey together for almost sixty years, their mutual love and confidence increasing as time has passed by. In a review of the life record of Mr. Packer we note that his sterling qualities have been such as are worthy of emulation and have commanded for him uniform respect. He has ever been true to the trust reposed in him, whether in business or in private life, and his industry and inventive genius have given to the world various valuable devices. His career has indeed been of use to his fellowmen, and his present rest is well earned.

CHARLES MERRITT WORTHINGTON.

The name of Charles Merritt Worthington figures prominently on the pages of Whiteside county's history. His birth was almost coincident with the founding of Sterling, for he was the first white male child born within the borders of the city. He lived to become an active factor in its business affairs and public life and his influence was ever found on the side of progress and improvement. His personal qualities, which commanded the entire respect of all who knew him, gained for him lasting friendships, so that his memory is enshrined in the hearts of the great majority of those with whom he came in contact.

The Worthington family, of which the subject of this review is a representative, was founded in America in the seventeenth century by ancestors

who settled in Connecticut. Thomas Worthington, the grandfather of C. M. Worthington, was born in that state, served his country as a soldier of the war of 1812 and throughout his business career engaged in merchandising. He married Elizabeth Bulkley, and both reached an advanced age. Their family numbered six children and the last survivor, Thomas Worthington, passed away at a recent date at the very venerable age of ninety-seven years.

Elijah Worthington, son of Thomas Worthington, Sr., and father of C. M. Worthington, was born in the state where his ancestors had lived from colonial days but, departing from the ancestral home, became a resident of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, and subsequently removed westward to Illinois about 1836. He settled on the bank of Rock river at a point that is still known as Worthington Place. He married Elizabeth Merritt, also a native of Connecticut and a daughter of William Merritt, who was born in the same state and was a descendant of William Merritt, of an old English family, which has its branches in Connecticut and Massachusetts. The death of Elijah Worthington occurred in 1839, when he was about forty years of age and his widow afterward married a Mr. Goss and removed to Mount Carroll, Illinois.

It was there that Charles Merritt Worthington spent his boyhood days and acquired his early education. His father had followed the occupation of farming in connection with merchandising and had conducted the first store in Sterling, so that the family name is inseparably associated with the history of this city. Charles Merritt Worthington, moreover, is entitled to representation in this volume because of the fact that he was the first male child born in Sterling, his natal day being September 16, 1838. In later years he became an active factor in its business and public life. He spent a few years of his boyhood in Mount Carroll but at the age of fifteen years returned to Sterling, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest. He learned the printer's trade, afterward became a journalist and owned and edited the Sterling Gazette for many years, making it one of the best papers published in this part of the state. He was a man of clear, efficient and sound judgment, never hesitated in forming his opinions and presenting his ideas through the columns of his paper with a clearness and force that left no doubt as to his position and always carried influence in forming public opinion. His public service was characterized by the utmost loyalty and devotion to the duties which devolved upon him. He held office under the United States government, serving as gauger at the Sterling distillery for four or five years, while for eight years he was postmaster of the city.

Mr. Worthington was married in 1863 to Miss Elizabeth Page, of Sterling, and to them was born a daughter, May, who became the wife of Cyrus Cass Collins, of River Forest, Illinois, and died leaving a daughter, Elizabeth M. Collins, now living in River Forest. In 1865 Mr. Worthington wedded Miss Anna Wadsworth, of Dixon, Illinois, and they had a son, Walter, now of Dixon. On the 16th of September, 1900, Mr. Worthington was united in marriage to Miss Fanny McCartney, a daughter of David and Elizabeth Augusta (Agge) McCartney, and a lady of rare literary tastes, well known upon the lecture platform.

Mr. Worthington's patriotism found tangible evidence in his valiant service at the time of the Civil war. He became the first lieutenant of Company A, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for one hundred days' service and was reported by his colonel as the bravest man in his regiment. A prominent Mason, he attained high rank in the order, belonging to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; and Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T, while both he and Mrs Worthington were members of the Order of the Eastern Star. A man of broad mind, of liberal culture and advanced ideas, he left the impress of his individuality upon public thought and action and aided in molding the destiny and shaping the history of the county with which he was so closely identified through a long, active and useful life.

NICHOLAS VOCK.

Among the residents of Whiteside county of foreign birth who, loyal to public interests, are today numbered among the stalwart American citizens, is Nicholas Vock, a native of Germany, born May 26, 1862. The parents were John and Anna Vock, also natives of Germany. They had a family of nine children, namely: Nicholas, the subject of this review; Barbara; Phillip; Lizzie; Margaret, deceased; Lawrence; George, who has also passed away; George, the second of the name; and one who died in infancy.

Nicholas Vock remained under the parental roof until eighteen years of age, and then came to America. This country, with its miles upon miles of broad prairie, its rich mining districts and great forest tracts, has been the land of opportunity for thousands of people who have come from the old world, and, moreover, it is the land of opportunity for character development as well, where the individual is not hampered by caste or class, but makes his way by reason of real personal merit. After landing on eastern shores Mr. Vock continued his journey into the interior of the country until he reached Whiteside county. Here he began working by the month, and that he was faithful, reliable and capable is indicated by the fact that he was employed by one man for eight years. He then married and began farming on his own account, cultivating a tract of rented land for six years, during which time he saved from the proceeds of his sales of crops a sufficient sum to enable him to purchase a farm in Whiteside county. He then lived upon his original place for seven years, when he sold that property and bought two hundred acres of land on sections 1 and 2, Montmorency township, whereon he took up his abode in 1902. The fields have been brought under a high state of cultivation and good farm machinery is used in carrying on the work. He also raises and feeds stock, and this adds materially to his annual income.

In 1889 Mr. Vock was united in marriage to Miss Sabine Billinger, who was born in Sterling in 1864, a daughter of John and Johanna (Reichet) Billinger, both of whom were natives of Germany. They came to America in 1858, the father working here as a laborer. He died in the year 1895, and

the mother, who still survives, now makes her home with a daughter in South Dakota. Mrs. Vock was one of a family of five children, and by her marriage has become the mother of ten children: Edward, Clara, Carl, Frances, Eva, Marie, Helen, Anna, Joseph and Albert.

In his political views Mr. Vock is a republican, his study of the questions and issues of the day having led him to give stalwart allegiance to the grand old party. He has been a school director for nineteen years, has been road commissioner for seven years and drainage commissioner for seven years. In these positions he has discharged his duties with a promptness and fidelity that none question, and which have led to his long retention in office. He and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church, and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus. When he arrived in Whiteside county his capital could almost literally have been contained in a nutshell, for he possessed but one dollar. Today he is one of the substantial and prosperous agriculturists of the community, and what he has accumulated has been won through hard work day after day. None question his thrift nor his honesty, and his example may well serve as a source of inspiration to others, showing that success is not a matter of genius, but is the outcome of clear judgment, experience and indefatigable labor.

JAMES THOMAS JACKSON.

While more than a quarter of a century has passed since James Thomas Jackson was called from the activities of this life he is yet remembered by many friends who knew him as a leading farmer of Mount Pleasant township, where he passed away on the 9th of November, 1881. He was born at Woodstock, Madison county, New York, on the 28th of February, 1825, his parents being Orson and Patience (Anthony) Jackson, who were old settlers of Otsego county, New York. Both died in the Empire state, where the father had followed the shoemaker's trade in order to provide for his family. He had two sons, of whom Lucius Jackson, coming to the west, lived for many years at Cedar Falls, Iowa, where his death occurred.

James Thomas Jackson was reared and educated in New York and in early life learned the shoemaker's trade. It is a well known fact that the west has always been the land of opportunity and attracted by the chances open here for business development and growth he came to Whiteside county in 1856. Although he had no previous experience in farm life, he determined to engage in agricultural pursuits and settled in Mount Pleasant township. When this farm came into his possession it was a tract of one hundred and twenty acres of unimproved land, but with characteristic energy he began its development and soon the track of the plow was seen across the fields. When the sod was broken and the harrowing done the seed was planted and in due time the once raw prairie brought forth rich crops. As the years passed modern improvements were added to the place and in 1876 the present residence was erected. While carrying on general farming Mr. Jackson also

worked to some extent at his trade in Unionville and other places while making his home upon his farm. Here he resided until his death and was recognized as one of the valued citizens of the community.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Jackson put aside all business and personal considerations and enlisted as a member of Company E, Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in 1862. He was promoted from the ranks to corporal and served for five months, when his health failed him and he was honorably discharged. He was never a well man afterward and thus practically gave his life for his country.

Mr. Jackson was married in Madison county, New York, to Miss Sarah S. Burton, who was born at Eagle Village in Onondaga county, New York, January 3, 1828. She is a daughter of Sylvanus and Theodosia (Miller) Burton, who removed from Vermont to the Empire state. In the fall of 1857 Mr. and Mrs. Burton removed westward to Whiteside county and several years later went to Benton county, Iowa, where they made their home until called to their final rest, the father dying in 1884 and the mother in 1882. Mrs. Jackson was one of six children, of whom three are now deceased. Her sister, Mrs. Harriet Rockwell, resides in Forestville, New York, while her brother, George H. Burton, is a resident of California.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jackson were born five children. Florence, born in 1857, is now the wife of James Larkin, of Merville, Iowa. Charles, born in 1859, died in Whiteside county in 1879. Nora E., born in 1863, became the wife of Joseph A. Myers, who was born in Mount Pleasant township, this county, December 5, 1858, a son of Joseph and Maria (Austin) Myers, who came to this county at a very early day, settling in the timber among the pioneers. Joseph Myers entered land from the government on section 1, Mount Pleasant township—the place now owned by H. A. Reynolds. Both he and his wife continued here as prominent and worthy pioneer people up to the time of their demise, their remains being interred in Morrison. They had ten children, of whom three are yet living: John C. Myers, a resident of Bellingham, Washington; Mrs. Victoria McLennon, of Morrison; and Joseph A. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Myers have been born two children: Paul, who was born in 1886 in Clarke, South Dakota, and is at home; and Ruth, who was born in Lee county, Illinois, in 1898, and is now in school. Kate L. Jackson, the fourth member of the family, was born in 1865 and became the wife of James McCulla and died in Albany, New York, in 1888. Her husband now resides in Ireland. Albert L., born in 1871, is a farmer residing at Livermore, Humboldt county, Iowa.

In his political views James T. Jackson, the father, was a stalwart republican but was never a politician in the sense of office seeking. However, he served as school director and was interested in all that pertained to the welfare and substantial upbuilding of the community. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was a member of the Methodist Protestant church, to which Mrs. Jackson also belongs. He was a man highly esteemed by all who knew him by reason of his upright life, the straightforward methods which he followed in business and the honorable principles which characterized him in every relation. Like

her husband, Mrs. Jackson well deserves mention in this volume, having for more than a half century resided in the county. She is one of the worthy pioneer women and can relate many an interesting tale of the early days and of the changes which have brought the county to its present condition of development and prosperity.

TRUMAN CULVER.

Truman Culver, deceased, was born in Boonville, New York, September 9, 1835, a son of Truman H. and Catharine (Campbell) Culver. The paternal grandfather, Solomon Culver, was a colonel in the Revolutionary war and was killed in the defense of a fort during an attack by the British. Truman H. Culver, the father of our subject, was descended from English ancestry and was born in New York in 1805. He followed the profession of teaching for about twenty years, and in an early day removed with his family to China township, Lee county, Illinois, his death occurring in that county in the year 1866. His wife's birth occurred in 1810 and she passed away at Cambridge, Nebraska, in the '80s. In the family of this worthy couple were fifteen children, eleven of whom grew to maturity, while four died in infancy and early childhood. Of the sons, Herman was a member of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry and now makes his home at Port Angeles, Washington. Staunton, a sergeant of the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, after participating in all the battles of the Army of the Potomac, was killed at the battle of the Wilderness. He received seven wounds and was buried upon the field. William, a member of the Twelfth Illinois Infantry, was killed in the attack upon Fort Donelson, being among the first to scale the fortifications. He was also buried on the field.

Truman Culver, after acquiring a good literary education, taught school for several terms. In 1859, lured by the prospect of attaining wealth quickly, he went to Pike's Peak, but his experiences there were not all that he had anticipated and after a short time he returned to the east. Subsequently he taught school at Oswego, New York, for one term, after which he accompanied his parents to Lee county, Illinois, locating in Union Grove township.

While still residing there the Civil war broke out and he at once raised a company and was selected its captain, but he finally resigned his commission and the company disbanded. On the 2d of September, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company C, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and was mustered into service at St. Charles on the 18th of September. It was soon discovered that he knew more of military tactics than any other member of his company and that he employed himself almost nightly in drilling the company. In a short time the regiment proceeded to their winter quarters at Alexandria. The command was ordered to the front and took up its line of march for Richmond. Before reaching Manassas, Sergeant Culver reconnoitered alone and on seeing a rebel concluded to capture him,



Ernest Culver

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but he was suddenly confronted by two more, who commanded him to surrender, firing upon him at the same time. Mr. Culver at once started to return to his comrades, but the enemy were reinforced by two more men, who also began firing on him. Throwing himself on the side of his horse, he managed to escape their bullets and at length reached camp in safety. Moving on in the advance, with an occasional skirmish, the command reached Rappahannock Station, where they dislodged the enemy, numbering thirty thousand strong, driving them across the Rappahannock. The Fourth New York Cavalry, while out on a foraging expedition, became confused and separated into two squadrons and, each mistaking the other for rebels, began firing upon each other. The Eighth Illinois came to the rescue and soon settled the difficulty by capturing both squadrons. During the winter of 1862-3 the regiment was chiefly employed in picket duty and on scouting expeditions in that section of the country. On the 24th of May, 1863, Sergeant Culver was promoted to the position of second lieutenant. The spirit of patriotism was strong within him, for the blood of Revolutionary ancestors flowed in his veins and he had added new laurels to the already splendid military record of the family. Throughout his long and interesting career as a soldier his conduct was especially distinguished for a rare and indomitable courage under all the peculiar and trying circumstances by which he was surrounded. He rose from the ranks to the position of first lieutenant and on many occasions commanded his company when in action. During the first day's battle at Gettysburg he took command of a special detachment of two companies on the left flank, and throughout the remainder of his life he carried in his foot a ball that he received in this engagement. On the 1st of October, 1864, he received his honorable discharge, having served his country long and well and with a bravery questioned by none.

Returning to the pursuits of civil life, Mr. Culver conducted a grocery business in Rock Falls for about fourteen years, his annual sales amounting to from forty to fifty thousand dollars. Subsequently he was engaged in the boot and shoe business on an extensive scale and also met with a gratifying degree of success in the conduct of this enterprise. His reliable and straightforward business methods gained for him the confidence and esteem of all with whom he was associated and he was widely recognized as one of the most prominent merchants and public-spirited citizens of Whiteside county.

Mr. Culver was united in marriage on the 5th of September, 1865, at Morrison, Illinois, to Miss Clarinda Allen, a daughter of Philip and Harriet (Wilson) Allen and a native of Saratoga county, New York. Her paternal grandfather, William Allen, lived in that county and passed away there when well advanced in years. His wife was Hannah Allen. The maternal grandfather, Ezra Wilson, for several years a member of the New York legislature, was a tanner and a manufacturer. The parents of Mrs. Culver were also natives of Saratoga county, New York, and she was but twelve years of age when she accompanied them on their removal to Morrison, Illinois, where she grew to womanhood. Philip Allen was a carpenter and contractor by trade and lived at Morrison for many years,

passing away there at the age of sixty. His wife survived him and was sixty-five years of age at the time of her demise. Mrs. Culver was an only child and by her marriage also had but one child, Glen, who died at the age of five years.

In his political views Mr. Culver was a stalwart republican and took a prominent part in the local work of the party. He served as the first postmaster of Rock Falls, remaining in office from 1868 to 1872, and was also a member of the school board. He was a delegate to the state convention held at Chicago in September, 1891, and was ever to be found working on the side of reform and improvement. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the American Protective Association, while he kept in touch with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. He also belonged to the Masonic lodge at Sterling and at his death, which occurred January 31, 1907, he was laid to rest in the Morrison cemetery with Masonic honors. The county mourned the loss of one of its most prominent and honored citizens, one who in every relation of life had proved himself worthy of the entire confidence and trust of his fellowmen. Mrs. Culver, who survives her husband, has gained an extensive circle of friends during the long period of her residence here, her good traits of heart and mind having won for her the admiration and kindly regard of all with whom she has come in contact.

CHARLES A. ROSENGREN.

Charles A. Rosengren, who follows general agricultural pursuits in Coloma township, was born in Sweden, December 30, 1860, a son of Gustave B. and Marie (Johnson) Rosengren. In 1870 the parents with their family crossed the Atlantic and settled at Rock Falls, Illinois. The father was a painter by trade, and known as a skillful artisan, manifesting particular ability in his line as carriage decorator and stripper. He was employed by the Keystone Manufacturing Company but while thus engaged became interested in farming and in 1880 resigned his position with the manufacturing company and devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days, his death occurring April 25, 1906, when he had reached the age of seventy-one years. His life was an active, useful and honorable one, and he left to his family of eight children the priceless heritage of an honorable name. He had reared his children to habits of industry and integrity and all have become industrious and respected citizens. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Barnhard Rosengren, an extensive paper manufacturer of Sweden, who lived in the county of Halland. He married a Miss Ahlgren, whose father was a custom house inspector for many years.

Charles A. Rosengren was provided the educational privileges afforded by the public schools. He was less than ten years of age at the time of the emigration to America and as his years and strength increased he assisted his father more and more largely in the work of the home farm until twenty-two

years of age, when he began life for himself. The first year he farmed for his brother on what was known as the old Holland place in Lee county. He then rented land in Nelson township, where he continued for three years, after which he took up his abode on the Long farm, spending the succeeding year there.

On the 7th of March, 1889, Mr. Rosengren made preparations for having a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Jennie A. Christopher, a daughter of John and Marie (Dorf) Christopher, natives of Sweden and still residents of that country. The father is a farmer and is also interested to some extent with his sons in a large mercantile enterprise.

The year following his marriage Mr. Rosengren left the Long farm and for twelve years lived on the old Samuel Stone homestead. In 1902 he purchased the place upon which he now resides, constituting one hundred and seventy-three acres of rich and productive land, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation. He now has a beautiful country home and there are other substantial buildings upon the place, while the well tilled fields and good grades of stock indicate the progressive spirit of the owner.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Rosengren has been blessed with four children: Ethel Marie, who is now a senior in the township high school at Sterling; Ruth Hildur, Helen Irene and Charles Gustave Lawrence, all of whom are in school. All Mr. Rosengren's brothers and sisters are living and their homes are within a radius of a few miles and all are prosperous citizens of Whiteside county. Charles A. Rosengren is a liberal minded, progressive, enterprising man, highly esteemed by all who know him. He belongs to the Odd Fellows Lodge at Rock Falls, to the Knights of the Globe, gives his political support to the republican party and is a Lutheran in religious faith.

BENJAMIN T. GREENE.

Benjamin T. Greene was born November 15, 1865, in Lyndon township and has always resided within its borders, his home being now on section 11. He is a son of Giles and Laura (Mann) Greene, and a grandson of Benjamin T. and Hettie (Wilson) Greene. His grandparents were William and Mary A. Greene and Tibbets and Phoebe Wilson. Giles Greene was born at Willett, Cortland county, New York, March 13, 1822. His father was a native of Rhode Island and after his removal to the Empire state became a member of the New York State Militia, with which he served in the war of 1812. He was a farmer by occupation and followed that pursuit throughout his entire life. It was in 1809 that he removed with his parents to Cortland county, there living until his demise. His son, Giles Greene, was reared on the home farm there and was educated in Cortland and Oxford Academy. At the age of eighteen years he began teaching, which profession he followed during the winter seasons, while in the summer months he engaged in farming until after the death of his parents in 1853. Coming to the west, he arrived in

Whiteside county in 1854 and located in Lyndon township, where he made his home until his death. As the years passed he prospered and rose to prominence in agricultural circles. His first purchase of land was on sections 1 and 12 and included about fifteen acres which had been plowed. The improvements were a little house and a straw stable but he possessed a laudable ambition and as his financial resources increased he added to his property from time to time until he became the owner of over nine hundred acres, thus gaining a place among the extensive landowners of the county. All of this remains in the estate except a tract of one hundred and thirty-two acres, which has been sold.

Giles Greene was married February 6, 1855, at Cincinnatus, Cortland county, New York, to Miss Laura Mann, who was born in Delaware county, New York, December 27, 1827, and, still surviving, resides with a daughter in Sterling. Her parents were Aristarchus and Sophia (Kneeland) Mann, the former a son of Oliver and Content (Hill) Mann, the latter a daughter of Daniel and Grace Kneeland. Mr. Greene had been a resident of Whiteside county for two years when he returned to New York for his bride. Unto them were born five children: Harriett J., deceased; Ray, who resides on the old homestead; Mary Sophia, the wife of E. H. Wooster, of Sterling; Benjamin T., of this review; and Stark, a traveling salesman residing in Sterling. The death of the father occurred January 6, 1898, when he was almost seventy-six years of age. He had led a very busy and useful life, attended by the success which ever follows persistent effort, intelligently directed. For many years he made stock-raising the principal feature of his farm, raising cattle, hogs and horses on an extensive scale. His political allegiance was always given to the democracy.

Benjamin T. Greene, spending his entire life in Lyndon township, was reared on the old homestead farm and the work of the farm in its various departments early became familiar to him and qualified him for the labors of later life. He is now the owner of eighty-seven acres of land on section 11, and for nine years has resided upon this place, during which time he has added many substantial improvements that make it one of the pleasing features of the landscape. He erected his present residence and also has good barns and outbuildings upon the place, while in his farm work he uses the latest improved machinery.

On the 22d of December, 1891, was celebrated the marriage of Miss Lelia Isabelle Cady and Benjamin T. Greene. The birth of Mrs. Greene occurred in Lyndon township, December 22, 1870, her parents being George R. and Nettie V. (Parshall) Cady, the former a native of Lyndon township and the latter of New York. George R. Cady was born August 25, 1840, his father, Amos Cady, having come to Whiteside county in 1837. He purchased a claim on section 29, Lyndon township, and entered a second claim on section 20. On the latter he built a frame house, which was one of the first of that construction in the county and it remained his place of residence until his death, which occurred November 5, 1857. His first wife died in 1836 and on the 21st of March, 1837, he married Charity Crippen, who was born January 10, 1812, in Rome, Oneida county, New York, a daughter of Peter and Char-

lotte (Smith) Crippen. Amos Cady brought his wife as a bride to Whiteside county, making the journey westward by way of the lakes to Detroit and thence by team to their destination. They took possession of the little pioneer cabin here and while Mrs. Cady managed the household affairs Mr. Cady carefully conducted the work of the fields. He died November 5, 1857, and his wife ever remained true to his memory, never marrying again. Her last days were spent in Lyndon, where she died at the very advanced age of ninety-three years, being one of the oldest residents of the county. In all her life in this community she was a potent factor for all that was good and ennobling. She left five children: William, who is living in Kansas City, Missouri; George R.; Orlando, of Lyndon; Mrs. Charles Lewis, of Westgate, Iowa; and Eliza, of Philadelphia, Missouri.

Of this number George R. Cady, father of Mrs. Greene, was reared on the old homestead farm in Lyndon township. On the 14th of February, 1862, he wedded Nettie V. Parshall, and they became the parents of six children: Walter D., of Rock Falls; Mrs. Elva Hazard, of Erie, Illinois; Mrs. Zella Allen, of Lyndon; Mrs. Greene; Dewitt R., of Erie, Illinois; and George Merle. For two years the father was in ill health and on the 2d of June, 1905, passed away. He was devoted to the welfare of his family, was a kind neighbor and worthy citizen and enjoyed to the fullest degree the respect and good will of all who knew him. For nearly a quarter of a century he served as constable of Lyndon.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Greene began their domestic life upon a farm in Lyndon township and nine years ago came to their present home. His political allegiance is given to the democracy but he has never sought nor desired office, preferring always to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, which, capably directed, are bringing to him merited success.

EDWIN LIMOND.

Edwin Limond, a cigar manufacturer and news dealer conducting business in Rock Falls, was born in New Brunswick, Canada, July 30, 1847, a son of William and Jane (Baxter) Limond, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of New Brunswick but of Scotch parentage. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Elijah Baxter, a native of Scotland and a man of considerable means, who owned a large tract of land. He passed away in New Brunswick at the age of ninety-eight years. William Limond, who was a shipbuilder and a sea captain, died in New Brunswick at the remarkably old age of one hundred and four years, having long survived his wife, who passed away in 1851 when about forty-eight years of age. They were Presbyterians in religious faith, and their family numbered ten children, nine sons and one daughter, of whom five still survive: John, of Chicago; David, who resides in Boston, Massachusetts; Andrew S., who makes his home in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Edwin, of this review; and Adam B., of Boston. Elijah Limond,

a member of this family, served as a soldier in the Civil war for three years and nine months as a member of the Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was slightly wounded at the battle of Shiloh, went with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea and participated in many important battles of the war, being promoted several times for bravery.

Edwin Limond remained in the place of his nativity until eighteen years of age, his father sailing out of Portland. He received a good literary education, being graduated from the high school, and taught for several terms in New Brunswick. Subsequently he crossed the border into the United States, removing westward to Saginaw, Michigan, where he remained for one year. On the expiration of that period he came to Fulton, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he was employed by C. L. Ware and ran a boat on the Mississippi river for one season. He then took up his abode in Sterling, where he learned the cigarmaker's trade and lived for four years, when he removed to Clinton, Iowa, thence to Ottawa, Illinois, following his trade for two years. Subsequently he returned to New Brunswick and a year later went to Boston, New York and various other cities. In 1898 he once more came to Whiteside county and opened a cigar factory of his own in Rock Falls, where he has since conducted a successful business. He manufactures a number of popular brands, including The Bell, Queen Bee, Saskatoon, The Gee Whiz, Friendly Tip and others. In addition to his cigar manufacturing enterprise he conducts a news stand, handling newspapers and the various popular magazines. His factory is located on Second street and he has met with a gratifying measure of prosperity in the conduct of both branches of his business.

Mr. Limond was united in marriage to Miss Ida Ralston, and is now the father of five children, namely: William, Blanche, Wallace, Irene and Edwin, Jr. Miss Blanche Limond is now a school teacher at North Hume.

In his political views Mr. Limond has always been a staunch republican. He resides at No. 405 Fourth avenue and is well and favorably known throughout the community as a progressive and enterprising citizen and business man.

WILLIAM A. SANBORN.

The name of William A. Sanborn was an honored one in business circles in Sterling. Through the force of his character, his strong purpose and laudable ambition he gradually worked his way upward until for some years prior to his death he was cashier of the First National Bank. His birth occurred in Cattaraugus county, New York, January 13, 1832, his parents being Joseph and Anna (Blaisdell) Sanborn, also natives of the Empire state. Following the death of the father, the mother came to the west at an early day and lived with her brother, who had preceded her to Polo, Illinois. There she passed away when well advanced in age.

William A. Sanborn was reared in Cattaraugus county and acquired a common-school education but early started out in life on his own account. He was but twelve years of age when he began to earn his own living and in his

youth and early manhood he followed various pursuits, scorning no employment that would yield him an honest living. The rapidly growing west with its broader opportunities attracted him and in 1854 he came to Illinois, where he had charge of a construction gang on the Northwestern Railroad, which was then being built. He was also in charge of a force of workmen on the hydraulic power on the dam across Rock river at Sterling. Subsequently he became agent for the American Express Company at Sterling and occupied the position for a number of years, also acting as agent for the McCormick agricultural implements. He likewise conducted a coal business and through these various undertakings he accumulated capital sufficient to enable him to establish a private banking business on Depot street. There, in August, 1864, his safe was broken open and robbed. He afterward removed his business to the present site of the First National Bank, where then stood a one-story brick building. The express office was conducted in the rear end of the building. When the First National Bank was organized Mr. Sanborn became one of its stockholders and in fact was largely instrumental in forming the company that resulted in the establishment of the business. From the beginning he served as cashier and so continued up to the time of his death which occurred October 24, 1901, when he had reached the age of sixty-nine years and nine months. In all his business relations he was found reliable and trustworthy as well as energetic and determined, and his example may well serve as a stimulus and an encouragement to others.

Mr. Sanborn was married to Miss Helen McCune, a daughter of William McCune. They became the parents of a son and two daughters: John Sanborn; Anne, now deceased; and Helen, who died at the age of three years. The son, John Sanborn, was born and reared in Sterling, attended the public schools and was graduated from the noted Philips Exeter Academy at Exeter, New Hampshire. He then turned his attention to the stock business and engaged in the breeding and raising of horses, in which he continued with his father until the latter's death. He has since lived retired, giving his supervision to his invested interests. He is now a director in the First National Bank and has other income property. Mrs. Sanborn was reared in the faith of the Episcopal church. She was a lady of many excellent traits of character, devoted to the welfare of her husband and children, while in friendship she was ever loyal. She died in 1871 at the age of thirty-three years.

Mr. Sanborn survived for three decades. In his death Sterling lost one of its representative and honored citizens. He served as mayor of the city for one term, was supervisor for a number of years and a member of the school board for about forty years. In all his relations to the public he was found a faithful official, placing the general good before personal aggrandizement and the public welfare before partisanship. His business interests were of a nature that contributed largely to the upbuilding and commercial progress of the city. Aside from his banking interests he was for a number of years president of the Sterling Hydraulic Company, acting in that capacity up to the time of his death. He was likewise president of the Sterling Gas and Electric Light Works and in business was notably prompt, energetic and reliable. He formed his plans readily and was determined in their execution, yet in man-

ner he was quiet and reserved rather than aggressive. He commanded respect because his strong qualities stood the test of time and of friendship. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and in his life exemplified the sterling principles of the craft. While his somewhat reticent manner in a degree limited the number of his friends, those who came within the closer circle of a more intimate acquaintance entertained for him the warmest esteem while all who knew him respected him for what he accomplished and for the principles which guided him in every relation of life.

DANIEL HOLLINSHEAD.

No resident of Whiteside county has more intimate or accurate knowledge of the events which have shaped its history, the course of its progress and the nature of its development than Daniel Hollinshead, who since 1839 has lived in Whiteside county, while for sixty-seven years he has made his home upon the farm which is yet his place of residence. He well deserves prominent mention in this volume, as his life record has been in many respects exemplary, proving a practical illustration of progressive citizenship and honorable business methods.

Mr. Hollinshead was born in Kingston, Canada, February 7, 1834, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Rush) Hollinshead. The mother was a native of Pennsylvania and a grandniece of Benjamin Rush, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Her mother, Mrs. Julia Ann Rush, belonged to a very patriotic family and she heartily espoused the cause of the colonists. Frequently donning male attire she did picket duty for the patriot army in the Revolutionary war. Subsequently she accompanied her son-in-law, John Hollinshead, to Canada, and afterward came with the family to Whiteside county, Illinois, where she died in 1842, her grave being made in the family cemetery on the home farm.

John Hollinshead was a native of Jersey City, New Jersey, born January 6, 1798, and was quite young when he went to Canada with his father, Jacob Hollinshead, who died in that country. The latter was a native of one of the eastern states, was a hatter by trade and in religious faith was a Friend, or Quaker. Reared in the Dominion, John Hollinshead having arrived at years of maturity, was there married to Elizabeth Rush and continued a resident of Canada until 1839, when with his wife and five children he again crossed the border, once more becoming a resident of the United States. He located in Whiteside county when it was an almost unbroken wilderness. The journey had been made by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago, which city had been incorporated only two years before. Thence they proceeded by wagon to this county and established a home in what is now Clyde township. Believing that the geographical situation of Chicago would one day make it a great city, John Hollinshead returned there and bargained for a farm in what is now the heart of the metropolis, but as he could not collect money which was due him did not succeed in making the purchase. For two years he



Daniel Hollinshead

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resided in Clyde township and twice during that period hauled grain to the Chicago market, where he sold his wheat at sixty cents per bushel. He was closely associated with the early development of the county and at the time of his death had succeeded in improving a new farm of one hundred and forty acres in Ustick township. He died in 1845, while his wife passed away in the spring of 1863.

Daniel Hollinshead spent the first five years of his life in the county of his birth and since that time has been a resident of Whiteside county. In his early boyhood he pursued his studies in a little log schoolhouse under "the bluff" and in the school of experience has learned many valuable lessons which a retentive memory has fixed upon his mind. Reading and observation have also broadened his knowledge and made his opinions of worth in the settlement of community affairs. His training at farm labor was not meager, for from an early day he followed the plow and on attaining his majority he and his brother Jacob rented the farm from their mother and thus cultivated it for four years. He still lives upon the old homestead, which has now been his place of residence for sixty-seven years and today his landed possessions comprise two hundred and eighty acres in Ustick and in Fulton townships. He was at one time engaged quite extensively in the breeding of fine horses and was the owner of a fine stallion and also had an interest in a Belgium draft horse. He has also fed cattle and hogs quite extensively for the market and in addition to general farming and stock-raising he buys and sells farm properties.

Mr. Hollinshead has been married twice. On the 2d of July, 1859, he wedded Mary Knight, who was born in Hancock county, Illinois, a daughter of Wesley and Louisa (Cowles) Knight, who were of Mormon faith and when the people of that denomination were driven from Nauvoo came to Fulton, where her father died while on his way to California. His wife was a daughter of Elder Cowles, one of the elders who was opposed to Brigham Young on the question of polygamy. Mr. Hollinshead died April 8, 1864, leaving four children, of whom three passed away in infancy. The only one now surviving is Dora, the wife of Quincy L. Slocum, who is superintendent of sand companies at St. Louis, Missouri, and they have two living children, Leith H. and Lloyd Q., and one deceased, Liebling Mary, who died March 15, 1907.

Having lost his first wife, Mr. Hollinshead was married September 16, 1868, to Miss Rebecca M. Hubbell, who was born in Summit county, Ohio, July 31, 1837, a daughter of Matthew and Betsy (Foote) Hubbell, the latter a native of eastern New York and the former of Bridgeport, Connecticut. He was a son of Andrew Hubbell, a farmer, and on leaving the home farm Matthew Hubbell learned the tailor's trade in New Berlin, New York, following that vocation until forty-five years of age. After spending some time in Ohio, he removed to St. Clair county, Michigan, where he began farming and there his death occurred in November, 1886. His early political allegiance was given to the democracy, but in antebellum days he became a stanch abolitionist and took an active part in the operation of the underground railroad. His first wife died January 19, 1840, and in 1842 he wedded her sister, Seraphina Foote, by whom he had one son, Matthew. There were

five children of his first marriage, of whom one died in infancy, while Lucy died at the age of twenty-two years. The others are: Lois, the wife of Harvey Coburn, of Sanilac county, Michigan; Angelina, the wife of John Allen, of St. Clair county, Michigan; and Mrs. Hollinshead.

By her marriage Mrs. Rebecca Hollinshead became the mother of six children: Delia A., the wife of Frank Hollinshead, a resident of Plainville, Kansas, by whom she has one son, Thayer D., and a daughter, Jeannette, deceased; L. Hubbell, who married Phernia Wilson and died March 8, 1901; D. Earl, who married Mrs. Phernia Hollinshead, the widow of his brother, and lives with his father, operating the farm; Archie F., who died December 5, 1881, at the age of five years; C. Burton, who is also assisting in carrying on the home farm and has recently patented an animal tamer; and Clare R., at home.

Aside from his farming interests, Mr. Hollinshead has been identified with the Garden Plain Mutual Insurance Company. His position on political questions is never an equivocal one. He gives stalwart support to the democracy and has filled several local offices. He served for six years as road commissioner, was also school director for a number of years and was likewise justice of the peace. Whether in office or out of it he is always loyal to the interests of the community and his aid and cooperation have ever been counted upon for the furtherance of works of public moment. His memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past, with all of its pioneer hardships, trials and privations, and the progressive present, with its many evidences of modern civilization. For almost seven decades he has lived in the county, spending his boyhood days here when it was a frontier district, aiding in his manhood in its development and upbuilding, while in the evening of life he enjoys the advantages that have come with the passing of time as the county has been settled and improved. He enjoys the regard of young and old, rich and poor, and has the confidence and trust of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

CLARENCE E. JOHNSON.

Clarence E. Johnson, publisher of The Record of Morrison, was born at Weston, McLean county, Illinois, August 18, 1868, a son of Dr. Hiram E. and Anna E. (Wheeler) Johnson. His paternal grandfather, who also bore the name of Hiram Johnson, carried powder and ammunition to the boats at the battle of Lake Champlain and he had a half brother who belonged to the famous Vermont Rangers and was at the capture of Fort Ticonderoga. Hiram Johnson, Sr., wedded Esther Tyler, who was born near Brattleboro, Vermont, and whose father was a soldier of the Revolutionary war.

Dr. Hiram E. Johnson is a native of Windham, Vermont, born December 17, 1834, and is now living in Fairbury, Illinois, at the age of seventy-three years. He was reared to farm life, pursued his early education in the

common schools and was graduated from the Castleton Medical College at Castleton, Vermont, on the 17th of June, 1857. He afterward pursued post-graduate work at Bellevue College, in New York city in 1863-4. He arrived in Illinois on the 14th of April, 1865, and settled at Stillman Valley near Rockford, where he practiced his profession for about three years. He next settled at Weston and built the first house in that place, also establishing a drug store there. He likewise served as postmaster and remained at that location for ten years. In 1876 he removed to Fairbury, where he still resides and where he is now practically living retired, spending his winters in Florida. He has been very successful as a medical practitioner and business man and has made judicious investments in property, including realty in Illinois, South Dakota and Florida, his property interests now bringing him a good income. His life has been actuated by high and honorable purposes in harmony with his profession as a member of the Baptist church. He has served as an officer in the church and does all in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. He was prominent in the Odd Fellows Society in former years and for a long period was a stalwart republican but for several years past has been actively identified with the prohibition party, which indicates his views upon the temperance question. He is now serving as secretary of the prohibition central committee and does all in his power to inculcate the spirit of temperance among those with whom he comes in contact. He married Anna E. Wheeler, who was born in New York city and is of English ancestry. Her father, Lucius Wheeler, was a manufacturer of hammers, skates and other iron goods in the eastern metropolis. His wife was Mrs. Sarah R. Wheeler, and his father was Joseph Wheeler, who was captain of a company in one of the Vermont regiments during the war of the Revolution, and was accorded prominent mention in some of the old United States histories. Mrs. Johnson is still living at the age of seventy-two years and is also a member of the Baptist church. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Hiram E. Johnson were born five children: William H., a postal clerk on the Chicago & Alton railroad, making his home at Normal, Illinois; Florence E., who is manager of the Chicago Art Education Company, located in the McClurg building at Chicago; Clarence E., of this review; and Lucius and Charles, both of whom died in infancy.

Clarence E. Johnson was a pupil in the country schools and also in the public schools of Fairbury. He was afterwards employed for about five years in the Elgin Watch factory and then entered the newspaper field at Sibley, Illinois, having purchased the Sibley Gazette. After three months he sold that paper and went to Clifton, Illinois, where he established the Clifton Advocate in February, 1893, continuing the publication of that paper until the fall of 1902, when he sold the plant and removed to Winchester, where he purchased a defunct plant and established the Scott County Herald. After publishing it for two years he again sold out in 1904 and purchased the interest of W. B. Barnes in The Record at Morrison, since which time he has conducted the paper with growing success. It is a weekly republican paper, devoted to local interests and has a good circulation and also a gratifying advertising patronage. He conducts in connection therewith a good job department, making a specialty of high grade printing.

In 1891 Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Harriet L. Cox, who was born in Beloit, Wisconsin, in 1870, a daughter of Franklin F. and Lucy (Parmalee) Cox, the father a traveling salesman. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had three children but lost their first born, Harold E. The others are Howard A. and Esther L. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and active in its work, Mr. Johnson serving now as a member of the session. He has membership relations with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America and gives his political allegiance to the republican party. Matters of general interest awaken his attention and receive his cooperation. He is now secretary of the Whiteside Farmers Mutual Telephone Company and treasurer of the board of trustees of the Odell public library of Morrison. He is also a member of the Jackson hose company, the volunteer fire department of the city. His interest in community affairs is always that of an active worker and his labors have been an element in the substantial development of Morrison since he allied his interests with hers.

DAVID McCARTNEY.

David McCartney, whose position of prominence in connection with the business interests and public life of Sterling well entitled him to representation in this volume, as one of the honored residents of Whiteside county, was born in Dansville, New York, September 16, 1807. His parents, William and Mary (McCurdy) McCartney; were natives of Scotland, born near Castle Douglas, in Kirkcudbrightshire. Their family numbered thirteen children, ten of whom reached adult age, but all are now deceased. The father, emigrating to the new world, became a farmer of the Genesee valley of New York and had a large estate in Livingston county, where he died when about sixty years of age. His wife survived him for about twenty years or more and had passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey at the time of her demise. She possessed remarkable business and executive ability as well as keen, strong intellect that was manifest in literary taste. They came to America in the eighteenth century and William McCartney was the founder of the family in this country. His father and also his grandfather likewise bore the name of William. The maternal grandfather of our subject lived and died in County Down, Ireland, passing away at an advanced age. He was a farmer who owned and cultivated land on the Emerald isle. His wife, Mrs. Margaret (Ferrier) McCoy, also attained an advanced age.

David McCartney, whose name introduces this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Dansville, New York, and as a young man engaged in business there as a dry-goods merchant, but thinking that the opportunities were better in the west he came to the Mississippi valley in 1843 and spent two years in St. Louis in the dry-goods business. He afterward removed to Fulton, Illinois, where he studied law and was admitted to the bar. He then engaged in the practice of the profession for a number of years, or until 1865, when he came to Sterling. Here he was soon recognized as a prominent, able

lawyer and continued to act as prosecuting attorney for the four districts of northern Illinois. His legal skill and knowledge were widely recognized and gained him distinction at a bar numbering many prominent members.

Mr. McCartney was twice married. He first wedded Miss Anne McNair and unto them were born two daughters: Elizabeth, the widow of Augustus N. Parker and a resident of Dansville, New York; and Mary Anne, of Sterling, who is the widow of the late James A. Galt. Following the death of his first wife, Mr. McCartney was married to Miss Augusta Agge and unto them were born five children, three sons and two daughters, but the sons died in infancy. Their daughter, Fannie, became the wife of Charles Merriitt Worthington and is mentioned elsewhere in this volume, while Anne is the wife of C. L. Sheldon, one of the prominent attorneys of Sterling.

The death of Mr. McCartney occurred in Sterling on the 19th of March, 1895, when he had reached the age of seventy-nine years, and his wife survived him for about eleven years, passing away at the age of seventy-seven. He was a very talented man and is said to have been the finest orator that has ever practiced before the Whiteside county bar. He was noted for his witticisms, for his comprehensive knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and his skillful tact in winning decisions. He never lost but one case. He was particularly celebrated as a criminal lawyer and presented his cases with a clearness and cogency that left no doubt as to the correctness of his position. He practiced quite largely before the supreme court of the state and was widely recognized throughout Illinois as one of its able attorneys. His attention was given strictly to his profession and his undivided allegiance no doubt in large measure accounts for his eminent success as a lawyer. He inscribed his name high on the keystone of the legal arch of Illinois and his professional record reflected credit and honor upon the bar of the state.

MYRON C. BUMP.

Myron C. Bump, a representative of the farming interests of Clyde township, belongs to one of the old families of Whiteside county. His father, Joseph W. Bump, located in this county in 1855. He was born in De Ruyter township, Madison county, New York, June 16, 1831, his parents being Marcus and Mary A. (Winegar) Bump, the former a native of New England and the latter of New York. They were both representatives, however, of old New England families and following their marriage they were numbered among the farming people of Madison county, New York, until called to their final rest. They held membership with the Society of Friends and the father died in 1871 at the age of seventy years, while his wife died in 1858 aged nearly sixty years.

Joseph Bump remained upon the home farm until about eighteen years of age and in 1849 became a blacksmith's apprentice under his uncle, Edward Mitchell, of Cayuga county, New York. He was thus employed for three years and in the meantime removed to Onondaga county, New York, where he

worked at his trade until twenty-three years of age. Attracted by the opportunities of the middle west, he then came alone to Whiteside county, Illinois, March 26, 1855, settling in Clyde township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. For a few years, however, he did not cultivate his farm to any extent but continued to engage in blacksmithing and also worked as a farm laborer in the community, after which he began the improvement of his own property.

Joseph W. Bump was married in Fairview, Mercer county, Pennsylvania, December 27, 1865, to Miss Alvira L. Converse, who was born in Medina county, Ohio, August 4, 1836, a daughter of Winthrop and Laura (Wentworth) Converse, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Canada. Both were of English lineage and of more direct New England ancestry. Her father died in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, in August, 1868, after which the mother made her home with a son in Iowa until her death in September, 1882, at the age of eighty-two years. Mrs. Bump was but five years old when her parents removed from Ohio to Mercer county, Pennsylvania, where she was educated. She was brought as a bride to the farm in Clyde township which her husband had secured and with characteristic energy they began the further improvement and development of the place, Mrs. Bump carefully managing the interests of the household, while her husband performed the work of the fields. He built here a fine residence after the war and substantial outbuildings and in addition to grain production also engaged in raising Durham cattle. His farming interests, however, were interrupted by his active military service in the Civil war, for on the 3d day of August, 1862, he joined the Seventy-fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, enlisting in Company C under Captain Altman, of Morrison, and he was mustered in at Dixon, September 2. He was with his regiment in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, September 8, 1862, and also met the enemy between Lancaster, Crab Orchard and Danville. Soon after he became ill and was sent to the hospital at Danville, October 25, 1862, where he was honorably discharged in the spring of 1863. On the organization of the republican party he became one of its stalwart supporters and he continued a believer in the faith of the Society of Friends, while Mrs. Bump became a member of the Baptist church. Their family numbered three sons: Myron C., born September 2, 1866; Winthrop M., March 26, 1869; and Marcus S., November 16, 1873. The last named, however, died January 8, 1894, at the age of twenty years, one month and twenty-three days. The father died May 28, 1887. The mother still survives and is one of the esteemed pioneer women of the county. She has changed her church relationship from Morrison to the Malvern German Baptist church.

Myron C. Bump was reared upon the old homestead farm, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of life for him in his boyhood days. He attended the public schools and received ample training in the work of the fields, assisting in the cultivation and development of the home place from the time he was old enough to handle the plow. The old homestead is now being operated by him and his brother, W. M. Bump, and comprises one hundred and ten acres of arable and productive land on section

27, Clyde township. The improvements have been kept up and others have been added until the farm is one of the best of the neighborhood.

Mr. Bump celebrated Christmas day of 1901 by his marriage to Miss Pinkie L. Birdsell, whose mother is still living upon the old homestead in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Bump are both well known in this locality, where their entire lives have been passed and many of their friends of the present day were also friends of their childhood. He has been a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Morrison for about twelve years.

PHILIP S. KIRK.

Philip S. Kirk, who for a long period was engaged in the practice of dentistry in Morrison but is now living retired in Fulton, was born in Warren county, Virginia, August 8, 1857, his parents being Philip and Mary E. (Wines) Kirk. The father was born in Pennsylvania and the mother in Virginia and both were representatives of families established in this country at an early day. Philip Kirk, Sr., devoted his life to merchandising, dealing largely in shoes in the town of Front Royal, Virginia. Following the Civil war, he removed in 1869 to Darlington, Lafayette county, Wisconsin, where he continued in business as a shoe merchant for three years. In 1872 he came to Illinois, settling at Mount Carroll, where he conducted a shoe store up to the time of his death in 1876. He had for two years survived his wife and left a family of four children: William H., now residing in Denver, Colorado; Philip S., of this review; Lucy, who died in Washington, D. C., in 1879; and Walter B., who died in Janesville, Wisconsin, in 1903. The father served as a private in the Confederate army, being at the front during almost the entire period of the Civil war. He participated in many hotly contested battles, including the engagements of the Wilderness, Antietam, Gettysburg, and many others.

Philip S. Kirk, whose name introduces this record, pursued his education in the country schools of Wisconsin and Illinois and having arrived at years of maturity he determined upon a professional course as a life work and at the age of twenty-two years took up the study of dentistry under the preceptorship of Dr. F. B. Johnson, of Morrison, Illinois, to which city Mr. Kirk had removed in that year. He was in Dr. Johnson's office for three years and then engaged in practice on his own account. Throughout his entire business career he was connected with the profession and gained a high degree of skill and proficiency in this line.

On the 31st of January, 1883, Dr. Kirk was married to Miss Clara E. Bush, of Carroll county, Illinois, a daughter of Jabez S. and Alma (Esty) Bush, who were early settlers of Carroll county. There Mr. Bush died in November, 1885, leaving a widow and four children, namely: Mrs. Kirk; Ira E., who resides in Ontonagon county, Michigan; Albert D., of Mount Carroll, Illinois; and Nellie A., the wife of J. V. Stapleton, of Morrison.

Following his marriage in 1883, Dr. Kirk removed to Shullsburg, Wisconsin, where he opened an office for the practice of dentistry. He remained

there for seven years, when in order to still further perfect himself in his chosen calling he matriculated in the dental department of what was then the American College but is now the dental department of the Northwestern University of Chicago. He was graduated therefrom in 1890, after which he returned to Shullsburg and resumed practice there. He continued at that point until 1892, when he removed to Morrison, where he practiced until 1905. In 1897 he had pursued a post-graduate course in the Northwestern Dental School. While in active practice he always kept in touch with the advancement of the profession, acquainting himself with all the latest improvements, not only in methods of practice but also in the materials and instruments used. The work which he did was universally satisfactory and a liberal patronage was accorded him, so that as the years passed he acquired a handsome competence. In 1905 he retired to private life and in 1907 removed from Morrison to Fulton, where he had purchased a home that is one of the most beautiful residences in the city, a comfortable and attractive dwelling, being surrounded by a well kept lawn, adorned with many fine trees and shrubs. Here he expects to spend his remaining days, enjoying the comforts of life that his former labor and skill have provided.

Dr. Kirk is a member of Dunlap Lodge, No. 321, A. F. & A. M., of Morrison; of Grove Lodge, No. 257, I. O. O. F., of Morrison; and of Primrose Chapter, No. 363, O. E. S. He has filled all of the chairs in both the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges and is in thorough sympathy with the principles upon which these orders are based. He takes no very active interest in politics, although he has served as a member of the board of aldermen of Morrison for one term and always keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. His advancement in his chosen field of labor was attributable entirely to his close application, his native skill and his acquired ability. He always held high ideals in his professional work and as the years passed gained well merited success.

SAMUEL ALBERTSON.

Samuel Albertson, who is now living retired in Sterling, was for many years closely associated with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county and in the capable control of his business affairs, his unfaltering diligence and his unflagging enterprise, lies the secret of the success to which he attained. He was born in the town of Clinton, Dutchess county, New York, January 18, 1818, his parents being Joseph and Elizabeth (Ham) Albertson, likewise natives of the Empire state. Of their family of thirteen children the subject of this review is the only one who survives. The father was a farmer and in 1832 removed from Dutchess county to Monroe county, New York, settling in the vicinity of Rochester, where he lived for about ten years. There he passed away in 1842 at the age of sixty-eight years. His wife survived him for a considerable period and died at the age of eighty-four. They were consistent and faithful members of the Society of Friends,



MRS. SAMUEL ALBERTSON



MR. SAMUEL ALBERTSON

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their lives being in harmony with the teachings of that sect, and Mr. Albertson was a minister of the faith and built up the society in his home community.

In tracing back the ancestral history of Mr. Albertson it is found that his grandfather, Isaac Albertson, also a native of New York, was a farmer and mechanic there. He wedded Mary Cheesman and died in 1817 in middle life, while his wife survived until about 1826. They were parents of five sons. The family comes originally from Holland Dutch ancestry. The maternal grandfather of Samuel Albertson was Frederick Ham, a native of the state of New York and of German descent. He was a farmer, providing for a large family, consisting of his wife, Mrs. Mary Ham, a number of daughters and one son, through his work as a tiller of the soil.

When a youth of fourteen years Samuel Albertson accompanied his parents on their removal to western New York, the journey to Monroe county, that state, being made before the era of railroad building. He was reared to manhood in Monroe county and acquired a common-school education in the early schools of the neighborhood. He was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and throughout his business career he made the cultivation of the fields his principal occupation. The opportunities of the growing west attracted him and in 1841 he came to Sterling. He had two brothers, Isaac and John Albertson, twins, who had preceded him, arriving in 1835. Each took up a claim to a half section of land and improved part of it, but the work of Isaac Albertson was cut short by death in 1845. His brother John, however, survived until 1872.

On reaching Illinois, Samuel Albertson purchased eighty acres from his brother John and also eight acres of timber land. With characteristic energy he began to improve his farm and made his home thereon for ten years. He then sold the property and bought two hundred acres which had formerly belonged to his brother Isaac. He still lives upon this place, but has sold all but fifty acres. For a long period he carried on the work of cultivating the fields and harvesting the crops, but at length turned his attention to utilizing what is known as the Woodlawn Spring for commercial purposes. It was found that the waters of this spring were good for stomach trouble and rheumatism and proved beneficial when used for baths. For about twenty years Mr. Albertson then conducted a sanitarium, which was patronized by people from many states. At the age of eighty years, however, he sold the springs and has since lived retired upon the farm in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits.

It was on the 5th of November, 1839, that Samuel Albertson was married to Miss Hannah DeGarmo, a daughter of Elias and Clemmie (Powell) DeGarmo. They became the parents of two daughters and a son. Harriet, the eldest, is the wife of Owen N. Hurst, residing near Salina, Kansas. Arthur died at the age of twenty-four years as the result of being thrown from a horse. Ella is the deceased wife of John E. Woodyatt and they had three children: Arthur, who married Edna Kelsey, and they have two children, Dorothy and Albert; Grace, the wife of Harry Hoover, of Sterling

township, by whom she has one son, Russell; and Lulu May, the wife of Roy R. Baer, a resident of Sterling, by whom she has two children, Donald and Luella. Mr. and Mrs. Owen N. Hurst had twins, Anna and a son. The former married Charles Kerr and they have nine or ten children.

In 1902 Mr. Albertson was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 10th of June of that year when nearly eighty-three years of age. She belonged to the Society of Friends, while Mr. Albertson is a Spiritualist. Politically he has always been independent. In community affairs he has taken a deep and helpful interest, aiding in organizing the schools and serving for many years as school director. He has also been highway commissioner and was treasurer of the board, helping to put up the first steel bridge that was built in the county, across the Elkhorn near the Pennington farm. He has been a resident of Whiteside county for sixty-six years and has witnessed its development from a wilderness to its present state of progress. His life in many of its phases has commanded for him the unqualified confidence and respect of his fellowmen, and he is justly accounted one of Whiteside county's worthy citizens, his history proving an important chapter in its annals.

LEWIS REITZEL.

Lewis Reitzel, a substantial business man of Sterling, conducting a flour and feed store and also operating a mill for grinding, was born near Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, at Rock Spring Mill, January 1, 1865. His paternal grandfather, Henry Reitzel, also a native of Pennsylvania, lived in Lancaster county and was a miller by trade. He died there at an advanced age, having for some years survived his wife. The family numbered eight children. The original American ancestors came from Switzerland, settling in Pennsylvania at an early period in the colonization of the new world.

Jacob Reitzel, father of Lewis Reitzel, was born in the Keystone state and was reared upon the farm but became a miller. The year 1865 witnessed his arrival in Whiteside county, Illinois, after which he followed farming in Hopkins township, and later bought a farm in Sterling township, north of the city of Sterling, owning and cultivating eighty acres there. After his children had reached adult age he sold that property and bought a small farm in the same township, upon which he made his home until his death. He died in February, 1899, while his wife passed away in December of the same year. They were Mennonites in religious faith. Mrs. Reitzel bore the maiden name of Susan Rutt, and was also a native of Pennsylvania, as were her parents. Her father, a farmer by occupation, died in that state at an advanced age and his wife had reached a ripe old age when called to her final rest. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Reitzel were born nine children, four sons and five daughters: Martha, deceased; Mary Ann, the wife of Noah S. Loux, of Sterling; Sabina, the wife of Abram L. Brubaker, of this city; Susan, the wife of Christian E. Goshert; Henry R.; Abram R.; Sarah, the wife of Philip Nice; Jacob R.; and Lewis.

The last named was but eight weeks old when the parents brought their family to Whiteside county and here he was reared to manhood upon the home farm. He attended the district schools and the Sterling Business College, and in the interval between the two courses of study he learned the miller's trade. After completing his commercial course he bought the flour and feed store which he has conducted continuously and successfully since December, 1888. At that time his location was a small frame building but he has since erected a large brick business block and put in a mill where he does grinding in connection with selling. For twenty years a business man of Sterling, he has made an excellent record in trade circles for reliability as well as enterprise and has proven that success and an honorable name may be won simultaneously.

On the 27th of May, 1891, Mr. Reitzel was married to Miss May Sigler, a daughter of Samuel and Catharine (Wink) Sigler, who were natives of Pennsylvania. The mother came west with her parents when a maiden of eight years and settled in Linn county, Iowa, where she was reared to womanhood and married. Mr. Sigler had arrived in the middle west when twenty-one years of age, taking up his abode in Bureau county, Illinois, and at the outbreak of the Civil war he put aside business and personal considerations, enlisted in defense of the Union, at Galva, on the 28th of May, 1861, as a member of Company D, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving for three years with that company and was honorably discharged on the 4th of June, 1864. He then re-enlisted on the 17th of September, 1864, as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged July 8, 1865, with the rank of second lieutenant. After the war he went to Lisbon, Iowa, where he lived until 1871, when he came to Sterling and for two years worked at the harnessmaker's trade. He afterward became an employe in the McCune pump factory, where he remained for twelve years, after which he capably and faithfully served for sixteen years as janitor of the Sterling school. In the month which witnessed his return from the war Mr. Sigler was married to Miss Catharine Wink, who died in 1884, at the age of thirty-seven years. He long survived her, passing away in May, 1906, at the age of sixty-seven years. He had served as captain of the fire department of Sterling for twelve and a half years and was one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens here. His nature was kindly and genial, and the children as well as the older people were his friends. He was one of a family of thirteen children, seven of whom are living, and his parents died in Pennsylvania when well advanced in years. His wife was a daughter of Samuel and Theresa (Goodman) Wink, of Reading, Pennsylvania, who died in Iowa at an advanced age. They had two children: Catharine, who became Mrs. Sigler; and Emma, who is still living.

Throughout the period of their married life Mr. and Mrs. Reitzel have lived in Sterling. They are active and faithful members of St. John's Lutheran church and for eight years Mr. Reitzel served as one of its deacons, while for twenty years Mrs. Reitzel has been a teacher in the primary department in the Sunday school. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as

he has always preferred to give his undivided attention to his business interests. There has been no esoteric phase in his career; on the contrary his entire record is as an open book which all may read. Through two decades he has been associated with the industrial and commercial interests of Sterling and his name has become a synonym for reliable dealing in this city.

JAMES POLK HOPKINS.

Among the younger and more enterprising farmers of Hopkins township, is numbered James Polk Hopkins, a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Illinois. He was born October 11, 1881, his parents being James Polk and Asenath (Lamont) Hopkins, the former a native of Whiteside county, and the latter of Toronto, Canada. Jason Hopkins, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Nashville, Tennessee, born June 27, 1899. He resided in his native city until he had reached middle age, when he came to Illinois because of the anti-slavery principles which he entertained, settling at Belleville, this state. He afterward removed to Peoria and at a later date became a resident of Whiteside county. He served as a soldier of the Black Hawk war, becoming a volunteer in a cavalry regiment, in which he was appointed quartermaster, holding that position throughout the continuance of hostilities that led to the subjugation of the red race and caused their removal from this section of the country to districts farther west. At the close of the war, in the autumn of 1832, as the troops were returning to their homes, Mr. Hopkins, with others, came to the Rock river, and in coasting along its banks reached the present site of the village of Como. Being impressed with the beauty of the place he made a claim, covering the entire tract known in pioneer parlance as a jack knife claim, by cutting his name in the bark of the trees, showing the boundary of his line. Mr. Hopkins always regarded this location as beautiful as the garden of Eden. It has, indeed, much natural attraction of a scenic character, while the resources of the farm were many because of the richness and productiveness of the soil. He was married in Peoria, Illinois, to Miss Elenora Johnson, who was born December 29, 1801, near Bowling Green, Kentucky. With his bride he returned to Whiteside county in 1835 and surveyed the claim, establishing the boundaries by marking trees in the timber and running furrows across the prairie with the plow and ox team. When the land came into market he purchased his claim, comprising sections 25, 26, 35 and 36, Hopkins township, and also some land adjoining, making in all about thirty-two hundred acres. He built the first log cabin in the township which bears his name, and thus planted the seeds of civilization in a region hitherto the domain of the savage. He possessed many sterling traits of character, was a man of firm purpose, unswerving integrity and loyalty and of unfaltering patriotism. He was an intimate acquaintance and a great admirer of General Jackson. In the community where he lived he became an influential factor. He was well fitted to cope with the conditions of pioneer life and in laboring for his community looked beyond the exigencies of the moment to the possibili-

ties of the future and builded for later days as well as for his own time. He died August 19, 1853, and thus passed away one who had been instrumental in laying the foundation for the present prosperity and progress of the county. The work that he did in reclaiming this wild region will always be remembered, inasmuch as the township in which he first settled bears his name—an honor that he well merited. His wife passed away May 13, 1858, having survived him for about five years. Their children were William T., Helen, Francis and James P. The first named was the first white male child born in Whiteside county, and his death occurred about 1862.

James P. Hopkins, father of our subject, was the youngest son of Jason Hopkins and was born upon the old homestead claim in Hopkins township, October 4, 1843. He was but ten years of age when his father died. He has lived all his life at Como, with the exception of the time which he spent in military service of his country. His patriotic spirit aroused, he responded to the call of the Union and enlisted on the 2d of September, 1862, in the Seventy-fifth regiment of Illinois Volunteers. He continued in the service throughout the war, and was honorably discharged in July, 1865. He participated in the battles of Atlanta, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and various others, which contributed to the result that finally crowned the Union arms. Although frequently in the thickest of the fight he escaped without serious injury. On his return to his home he resumed his former occupation of farming, and in the community was recognized as a citizen of value and public spirit. He was devoted to the principles of the republican party, which stood as the defense of the federal government in the dark days of the Civil war, and which has always been the party of reform, progress and improvement. He was always active in support of the schools and of other local interests calculated to prove of public benefit. On the 30th of November, 1869, at Atkinson, Henry county, Illinois, he was married to Miss Asenath H. Lamont, a daughter of Donald and Mary (Lloyd) Lamont. Her father was born in Scotland and her mother in Canada. They were married in the Dominion, where they resided for a short time before coming to Illinois in 1865, at which time they took up their abode in Hopkins township, Whiteside county. Their children were Asenath H., Flora A., John, Jesse L., Susanna, Elizabeth J., Charity, Washington M., Emily I. and Martha I. Mrs. Hopkins was born November 2, 1842, and by her marriage became the mother of five children, Elnora M., Jessie L., Anna F., Eunice B. and James P., Jr.

The last named resides upon the old homestead and is one of the energetic, aggressive young farmers of the county. In addition to tilling the soil in the production of the crops best adapted to climatic conditions here, he also makes a specialty of the raising of Poland China hogs, and likewise handles a good many horses. The house which stands here was erected many years ago, and is one of the old landmarks of the county. It is finished in black walnut, and also some butternut wood—woods which are today almost priceless. The farm is well cultivated, is neat and thrifty in its appearance in every department, and indicates the careful supervision and practical methods of the owner.

James P. Hopkins of this review is a member of the Fraternal Life, associated with Galt Lodge, No. 135. He votes the republican ticket, and though keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, has never sought office as a reward for party fealty. His mother resides with him and is an interesting and beautiful character. Their home, although one of the old residences of the county, has been well preserved during all these years and is a comfortable dwelling. The name of Hopkins has, from pioneer times, been an honored one in this section of the state. The work begun by the grandfather and carried on by the father is now being continued by the son, who is justly classed with the representative agriculturists and reliable business men of his community.

HON. JOHN G. PRICE.

The life of John G. Price has been largely devoted to the public service, and he has made an excellent record as a valiant soldier, as an able lawyer and as one who, in connection with the military posts of the country, has ever enjoyed the good will and confidence of the boys in blue. Moreover, in the Arkansas legislature he stood for wise laws, looking beyond the exigencies of the moment to the possibilities, needs and opportunities of the future.

He was born in Fairfield, Franklin county, Indiana, December 8, 1831, his parents being Andrew B. and Abigail B. (Mann) Price, natives of Ohio and Kentucky, respectively. The Price family comes of Welsh lineage. The paternal grandfather, John Price, was a native of Kentucky and made his home for some years in Hart county. He died in 1868, having for some years survived his wife. Their only child was Andrew B. Price, who was born in Ohio and became a physician and surgeon, completing a course in the Cincinnati Medical College by graduation about 1821. He entered upon the active practice of his profession in Ohio, living in Dayton and other cities of that state. He was also located at different times in Indiana and Kentucky and was recognized as an able representative of his profession, his life proving of valued service to his fellowmen in this regard. He was also prominent in political circles, was a member of the Indiana legislature for several terms and also represented his district in the senate. He gave careful consideration to the questions which came up for settlement and left the impress of his individuality and keen political foresight upon the legislative history of the state. In early manhood he wedded Abigail B. Mann, whose father lived in Kentucky and in Indiana. She was one of a family of three daughters and one son, and her death occurred in 1846. Mr. Price long survived his wife, passing away at Hebron, Porter county, Indiana, in 1873, at the age of seventy-three years. He was a consistent member of the Baptist church and a man of high ideals whose life was faultless in honor, fearless in conduct and stainless in reputation.

John G. Price, the eldest in a family of four sons and two daughters, and now the only surviving member of the family, spent his early boyhood

in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, and after the removal of the family to Centerville, Ohio, began his education there. Subsequently he was a student in the academy at Laporte, Indiana, and in 1848 he matriculated in Wabash College, from which he was graduated in 1852. He then removed to Valparaiso, Indiana, but before leaving Crawfordsville studied law for four months under the direction of General Lew Wallace.

From Valparaiso Mr. Price came to Sterling on the 4th of October, 1853, and continued his law studies with Miles S. Henry, who was an uncle by marriage. In 1858 he was admitted to the bar, the license being signed by Judge Breese, who was a very celebrated jurist of Illinois, and he then formed a partnership with his former preceptor, Mr. Henry. During the following year Fred Sacket was admitted to a partnership, and the firm remained Henry, Price & Sacket until our subject entered the army.

In 1861 Mr. Price went to the front as sutler for the Thirty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under command of General Kirk, and in the summer of 1862 he raised Company H of the Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was chosen its captain. With his command he went south, and the first battle in which he participated was at Perryville, Kentucky, but in 1863 was obliged to resign on account of ill health. His clothing was pierced by bullets and his hat suffered the same fate, yet he never sustained a wound. He took part in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, La Verne and in a number of skirmishes, and when mustered out returned to Sterling, where he remained until June, 1865.

At that date Mr. Price removed to Little Rock, Arkansas, where he was engaged in the practice of law until 1868, or until the passage of the reconstruction act. He was secretary of that constitutional convention of which General Thomas M. Bowen was president. About this time he became editor of a daily paper called the Little Rock Dispatch, which afterward became the Little Rock Daily Republican. While thus engaged in journalistic labor Mr. Price was nominated, without his knowledge, as a candidate for representative in the Arkansas legislature, and such was his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him that he was elected by a majority of five thousand and was made speaker of the house in the sessions of 1868 and 1869. During this period Mr. Price continued as editor and owner of the paper, and was thus identified with journalism in Arkansas until 1874. During that year he was made pension agent of Arkansas and Indian Territory, serving about one year.

After that time the Thirteenth United States Infantry was stationed at Little Rock, and in the summer of 1880 was transferred to Fort Lewis, Colorado, to protect the settlers against the Indians. Mr. Price was then appointed post trader there by the secretary of war, and filled that position until 1890, or until the disbandment of the post. In 1888 he was elected to the Colorado legislature and served for one term of two years. While acting as post trader he had purchased a four hundred acre ranch, and in addition to the cultivation of the land he engaged in breeding and raising fine cattle—the Cruikshank strain of Durhams. In 1890 he removed to Durango, Colorado, where he lived until 1892, and there began the practice of law, continuing

at that town until 1907, when he returned to Sterling to spend the winter, having closed out all of his interests in Colorado.

On the 14th of September, 1869, Mr. Price was married, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to Miss Mary B. Smith, a daughter of S. Lehman Smith and Hester Syng (Barnes) Smith. They had one daughter, Annie Knight Price. The mother, who was a faithful and consistent member of the Episcopal church, died March 14, 1893. The daughter is the wife of Percy Lee Richtmyer and they reside in Chicago.

Mr. Price was made a Mason in Sterling in 1856, and the following year took the Royal Arch degrees, since which time he has twice served as high priest of the chapter, and has held offices in the lodge. He also belongs to McPherson Post, G. A. R., at Little Rock, Arkansas. While living in Sterling many years ago he filled the office of city attorney for two terms and was also mayor for one term. His political allegiance was given to the republican party for many years, and in fact he continued with that party until 1896, when he withdrew and became a Bryan democrat. He is now living retired, making his home in Sterling, to which city he came in an early day more than a half century ago.

JACOB GARWICK.

The history of Clyde township would be incomplete without the record of Jacob Garwick, a man whom to know was to respect, because his life was active, useful and honorable. He started out for himself empty-handed and for many years struggled earnestly to gain a substantial position in the business world. The methods which he followed were ever honorable and upright and thus in his death, which occurred October 21, 1895, Whiteside county lost a valued citizen. He is well remembered as a progressive farmer living on section 2, Clyde township, and also as a minister. That his business interests were capably managed is indicated by the fact that he left a valuable estate of three hundred acres lying partly in Carroll county and still carried on by his widow.

The birth of Jacob Garwick occurred December 13, 1834, in Alsace, which was then a province of France, but has since reverted to Germany, the original owner. His father, Jacob Garwick, Sr., was also a native of that province and was of German parentage. In that country he learned and followed the miller's trade. In early manhood he wedded Magdalene Wolff, who was of French and Swiss lineage. Both of her grandsires came to America during the progress of the Revolutionary war under the command of General LaFayette and served on his corps of officers. Several other male relatives were among the French soldiery who came to assist the colonies in their struggle for independence. Jacob Garwick, Sr., came to the United States with his wife and children in 1853 and located upon a farm in Butler county, Pennsylvania. His son Jacob was the eldest of his children and left his native province in November, 1852, arriving in Pennsylvania a year prior



Jacob Garnick

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to his parents. In his native country he had been liberally educated in the German and French languages and for some time acted as an assistant teacher in the schools where he had been a student. He spent three months on shipboard on his way to America, not knowing a single soul on the vessel. The entire period was one of storm and peril, the food supply became exhausted and distress signals were flown from the masthead three successive days before their condition was discovered. They then anchored near an island in the South sea belonging to Portugal and secured sufficient supplies to enable them to proceed on their voyage. At length, however, the long trip was ended and Mr. Garwick landed safely in the new world. Here he made preparation for a home for his parents and when he saw them comfortably settled he started for Illinois. When he reached Chicago he had not enough money to pay for his breakfast, but he succeeded in making his way to friends in Dupage county, where he obtained aid and employment. In 1854 he located in Clyde township, Whiteside county, and three years later his father's family followed him to Illinois and took up their abode upon a farm at Fair Haven, Carroll county. There the father died in June, 1878, while the mother survived until May, 1884.

After coming to Illinois Jacob Garwick, of this review, worked as a general laborer, but while in Pennsylvania he followed the miller's trade, which he had learned under the direction of his father in his native country. His life to the age of twenty-seven years was one of continual hardship and toil, but he possessed strong determination and unfaltering courage and gradually worked his way upward. After his arrival in Whiteside county he became a farm hand and was thus employed until he could make arrangement to purchase land and engaged in farming on his own account.

As a companion and helpmate for life's journey Mr. Garwick chose Miss Sarah Zook, whom he wedded in Clyde township on the 27th of February, 1861. Her parents, Abraham and Anna (Gsell) Zook, were natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and of Swiss and German descent. Their ancestors settled in America about the time of the colonial struggle for independence. Mr. and Mrs. Zook were farming people and were married in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, their daughter Sarah being there born on the 19th of January, 1843. She was one of a family of eight children and accompanied her parents to Illinois when she was thirteen years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Garwick first settled in Newton township, Whiteside county, and two years later removed to Clyde township, establishing their home on the farm where Mrs. Garwick has since remained, now owning three hundred and fifty-five acres of land. Of the children born unto them the six who still survive are as follows: George E., the eldest, who now follows farming near Garden Plain, this county, acquired a college education and married a daughter of Henry Brubaker. They have three children—Floyd, Florence and Eber. Anna Garwick is the wife of William Geesey, and resides at home. They, too, have three living children—Hattie, Jacob and Ethel—and they lost one child, Lucille, at the age of four years. Sarah Garwick became the wife of Martin Hanna, of Carroll county, and has two children—Paul and

Lenora. Lizzie is the wife of Charles Dial, of Carroll county, and they have one adopted child, Charles. Dora is the wife of J. O. Elwing, a resident of West Union, Iowa, and has one son, Lillo. Katie is the wife of Dr. Cecil R. Rogers, an osteopathic practitioner of New York city. Of the children who have passed away Edith Esther, born November 25, 1885, died at the age of eight years and eight days. William H. died at the age of fifteen years, and Abraham and Lena died at the age of five and three years, respectively.

When Mr. and Mrs. Garwick came to what is now the old home farm he invested twenty-five dollars, his entire capital, in the property, and made arrangements for future payments. Soon, as the result of his earnest and unremitting labor, he was enabled to discharge his financial obligations and had his seventy-acre tract of land free from debt. He then added to the place from time to time until at his demise he had a splendid tract of land of three hundred acres, richly improved, in the midst of which he had erected a beautiful residence. He also provided ample shelter for grain and stock and his farm was one of the best improved of the locality. He was also largely interested in the raising of high-grade cattle, making a specialty of short-horns. His entire acreage was wholly unbroken at the date of purchase and the splendid appearance of his place represented years of earnest labor and unfaltering diligence. He won his success by the most honorable methods and his entire life was in harmony with the principles of Christian religion. He was for some time a local minister of the Evangelical church, but later united with the Brethren in Christ church. He lived peaceably with his fellowmen and his life was in many respects an example well worthy of emulation. He was faithful in friendship and devoted to the welfare of his family, and thus his death brought great sadness to the community in which he so long resided. Mrs. Garwick still survives her husband and resides upon the old home farm, giving to it her personal supervision. She, too, has many friends in the community and is well known here.

MARTHA A. JOHN.

"Not the good that comes to us but the good that comes to the world through us is the measure of our success" and judged by this standard the life of Martha A. John has been a most successful one. She is now living on a farm on section 23, Jordan township, which is the old family homestead, but for many years she was closely associated with the educational history of the county and did much to develop the school interests and to promote the intellectual advancement of the communities in which she was employed. She always held to high ideals in her school work, was constantly endeavoring to raise the standard of education and there are today many in the county who acknowledge their indebtedness to her for her intellectual training and her uplifting influence.

She was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, September 11, 1830, a daughter of Elida and Sarah (Hughes) John, who were also natives of

the Keystone state. Her father came to Illinois at an advanced age and afterward lived practically retired yet never ceased to feel a deep interest in the world's progress, in the affairs of government and in all those questions affecting the interests of the individual and the country at large. He was a man firm and fearless in support of his honest convictions. Born in 1805, his school privileges were meager but he was ambitious for intellectual advancement and used every opportunity for mental training and discipline. He became in the course of years a well informed man, recognized in every community in which he lived as a citizen of intelligence and solid worth. When still quite young he became a teacher and following his marriage followed that profession, at one time conducting a school in a part of his residence. He was careful that from their infancy his own children should be taught and his wife shared with him in his ambitions for their educational progress. When the free school system was established in Pennsylvania he was elected a member of the first board of school directors in Shamokin township, Northumberland county, and with the other members of the board labored faithfully and untiringly to divide the large wooded, hilly township into suitable districts and to supply each with a competent teacher. He also inspected the building of many schoolhouses erected at that time and for years he frequently visited the schools, speaking words of encouragement to teachers and pupils, arousing their ambition toward greater accomplishments in the line of mental acquirement and reminding the children especially that they were then enjoying privileges richer than their parents ever enjoyed. Scores of young people listened as they had never done to his kind and earnest persuasions to receive wisely the blessings waiting to crown their lives.

For about twenty years Elida John followed the occupation of a surveyor and conveyancer in Northumberland, Columbia, Montour and Schuylkill counties, Pennsylvania, carrying compass, chain and leveling staff through unbroken forests and over rocky mountains and penetrating into some of the most valuable anthracite coal fields in the state. His reputation for accuracy in surveys became such that he was often summoned to go long distances to survey disputed lines, and his evidence in the courts of justice settled many disputes. He was often called upon to administer estates, such was his well known justice and honor. In this work it was frequently incumbent upon him to be the arbiter between man and man, and this occasionally brought him into competition with able lawyers, but assisted by a keen insight and an unswerving sense of justice, he was on many occasions enabled to save property to the widow and orphan.

He early recognized the fruits of intemperance and became a stalwart advocate of the temperance cause. It was a day when the whiskey jug was found almost uniformly in the harvest fields, but he refused to furnish alcoholic beverages to his workmen, paying them a higher price than was usually demanded. He found that this was good business policy as well, although it was the moral element that prompted him in this course, but sober harvest hands could do more than those who were partially intoxicated, and in the long run his harvesting cost no more than if he had furnished whiskey and paid a lower rate of wages. When he was a member of the

board of school directors he was the only one who strongly favored the temperance movement, and in fact one of his co-members was a distiller. When the schoolhouse was being erected this man offered a resolution that no temperance nor abolition meetings should be held in the schoolhouses, which in that day were about the only place in which public meetings could be held. The question therefore was one of vital concern to any mind interested in the public welfare. Mr. John recognized the fact that he was in the minority upon the temperance question, but his keen sagacity enabled him to solve the problem by amending the resolution, so as to exclude singing schools, a pastime which nearly all of the school board greatly enjoyed. Not wishing to bar out the singing schools the resolution was defeated when put to vote, and thus the schoolhouses were left open to temperance, abolition and other movements for the moral benefit of the community. At one of the district meetings a man said to Elida John: "Mr. John, you temperance men make a great fuss about a drink of whiskey, and yet if a distiller should offer you a cent higher than the market for your grain you would sell it to him to convert into whiskey." Before Mr. John could answer the distiller, who belonged to the board spoke up: "No, sir, Mr. John will not. He sold his corn to Mr. ————— for more than any one else was getting, and then asked where he should deliver it. He was requested to deliver it at my distillery. Immediately he recalled the bargain at his own loss, and refused to deliver the corn at all." All through his life of seventy-eight years, during which time he handled much corn, he never sold one bushel to a distillery.

Mr. John was a most earnest, conscientious anti-slavery man and labored untiringly to promote the interests of abolition prior to the war. Throughout his long life he was actuated by the spirit of Christianity and each Sunday was found at his place in the house of prayer. He enjoyed the fullest respect and confidence of his fellowmen, who entertained for him the warmest friendship and the highest regard. Although he was fearless in his convictions, he was a man of ready sympathy and kindly spirit, and was always ready to speak an encouraging word or do a good deed for another. He contributed liberally of his means to the support of religion as a member of the Society of Friends. Although he was an old man when he came to this county, his business ability was recognized and his fine penmanship is seen on public documents in the records of Jordan, as well as upon the registers of his church.

His wife, who was ever his faithful companion and helpmate, and who was closely associated with him in all the various interests which made up his life's contacts and experiences, was born in 1802 of English and Welsh parentage, and was the youngest child of Hugh and Mary Hughes. A farm which is now the site of the enterprising borough of Kennet Square, Chester county, Pennsylvania, was the first landed possession of her ancestors in the new world. Her parents settled on the banks of Shamokin creek in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, about 1790, and her father was appointed to the position of justice of the peace by the governor of the state, and ably and impartially served in that capacity for many years. Mr. and Mrs. John were reared in the same neighborhood, and were friends from early child-

hood. Theirs was the closest companionship—a most ideal family relation. Matters for position were always discussed by both, each listening to the other with consideration, or speaking words of encouragement and sympathy. Like her husband, Mrs. John was a most earnest Christian, loyal to the teachings of her church and exemplifying her religious faith in her daily conduct and her relations with all with whom she was brought in contact. She passed away July 15, 1892, and her husband, May 1, 1883, at the age of seventy-eight years.

In the family of this worthy and honored Christian couple there were ten children: Palemon, Edwin, Martha A., Abia C., Hugh L., Ruth Anna, Chalkley, Sarah E., George D., and Lydia E. Of this family Dr. Abia C. John was the first physician to locate in the northeast part of the county, and here he secured a large practice.

Miss Martha A. John, whose name introduces this record, spent her girlhood days at the family home in Pennsylvania. In 1855 she came to Whiteside county as a private teacher in the family of Joseph M. Wilson. After a year she returned east to Delaware, where she engaged in teaching school for about a year, when she again came to Whiteside county and resumed her old position with the Wilson family. About 1859 her parents came to this county and Miss John gave up her place as instructor in the Wilson family and lived with them, but continued her educational work, remaining a teacher in the neighborhood for about twenty years, a part of this time making her home with her parents. She has devoted the greater part of her life to the training and instruction of the young, and has exerted a widely felt and beneficial influence in educational circles as well as in her social relations. Beloved by all who know her, her name is mentioned in deepest respect and kindly regard. She has certainly done her life work well, and contributed her full share toward the uplifting of mankind and making better the lives of others. She and her brother Chalkley reside upon the old family homestead, which is a farm of one hundred and eleven acres in Jordan township, from which they derive a good income.

Chalkley John, living with his sister in Jordan township, has been prominent, active and enterprising in his relations with public interests. He is well known as a former representative of editorial interests, has made a creditable record in official life and has been successful in carrying on general agricultural pursuits. He was born October 10, 1839, in Shamokin township, Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, his parents giving him excellent opportunities for the acquirement of a good education. Strong in body and ambitious in mind, he has made good use of his opportunities as the years have gone by. Thinking to have better chances in the west, he left Pennsylvania and made his way to Illinois. On reaching Whiteside county he found it largely an unbroken prairie district, in which the seeds of civilization and progress had scarcely been planted. He cast in his lot with the early settlers and sought employment on the farm of one hundred and sixty acres which his father had previously secured in Jordan township. He took possession of his father's claim and began the work of improvement, which

he carried on diligently and persistently. Subsequently he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land on section 24, Jordan township, in partnership with his brother, Hugh L. The latter erected necessary buildings, and the brothers proceeded with the work of development and cultivation. The partnership was maintained for some time, but eventually Chalkley John purchased his brother's interest.

On the 24th of August, 1875, occurred the marriage of Chalkley John and Miss Anna Nixon. Unto them was born one son, Marius, whose birth occurred February 15, 1877. Save for a brief period of a few years, Mr. John has always resided upon the old family homestead, which he operated for his aged mother. The place gives evidence of his careful supervision, practical methods and unbending energy. He and his sister now live upon the farm and his attention is concentrated upon its further improvement.

At different times, however, Mr. John has been connected with other interests. In the '80s he was editor and manager of the Farm Gazette, published at Sterling, and became the president of the Sterling Gazette Company. He held the office of road commissioner for four years, being elected to the position in the spring of 1877, and on the expiration of his term of service in that office, he was chosen supervisor, in which position he continued for a number of years. He was a director in the Northwestern Agricultural Society, which holds its institutes in Sterling, and he is a member of the Society of Friends. His activities have touched many lines, and all have profited by his labors and wise counsel. The family name has been an honored one in this county for more than a half century, and its present representatives, Martha and Chalkley John, are numbered among the honored and respected people of this section of the state.

PORTER HARKNESS.

There have been some interesting and eventful chapters in the life of Porter Harkness, who became one of the early settlers of this section of Illinois, and also made the trip across the plains to Pike's Peak at a time when there were no railroads and when civilization had penetrated little westward beyond the immediate borders of the Mississippi river. He was born in Springfield township, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, October 5, 1830, and was there reared upon a farm, under the parental roof. His parents were Chester and Louisa (Smith) Harkness, natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut, respectively. They were reared in New England and with their parents went to Pennsylvania, their marriage being celebrated in Bradford county, where their remaining days were passed. Their son, Porter, was the eldest in a family of three sons and three daughters. His brothers, Royal and Oscar, were both soldiers of the Union army in the Civil war, Royal enlisting from Dixon, Illinois, in the Thirty-fourth Illinois regiment of Volunteers, while Oscar was a member of the Pennsylvania Cavalry.

In early life Porter Harkness became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist as he worked in the fields and cultivated the crops. He continued a resident of the east until twenty-five years of age, when, leaving home, he made his way westward to Illinois in 1856. He located first in Ogle county, and for one summer cultivated a rented farm there. He afterward went on a visit to Hancock county, and subsequently crossed the plains to Pike's Peak with ox teams and six companions. This was in 1859, and he made a second trip in 1860. On one occasion he saw an immense herd of buffaloes, the animals being so numerous that they could be seen to the horizon line in every direction, and they caught two of the buffalo calves after the herd had passed.

On the 9th of August, 1862, in response to the country's call for aid, he joined the boys in blue, enlisting from LaSalle county, although he was living in Marshall county at the time. He became a member of Company I, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Wadley. All three of the brothers were soldiers of the Union army, and the military record of the family is therefore most creditable. Porter Harkness participated in the battle of Chattanooga and in all of the engagements of the Sherman campaign to Atlanta. He was wounded at Chickamauga in September, 1863, while serving under General Thomas, the third finger of his left hand being shot off, and for about six months he was confined in the hospital with his injury. He afterward rejoined the army, and at the close of the war participated in the grand review, the most celebrated military pageant ever seen on the western hemisphere, when thousands of Union soldiers who had participated in the victories of the north passed in review before the stand on which stood the president and others high in authority in national affairs.

The war over, Mr. Harkness returned to Marshall county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, upon which he lived for ten years. He then sold that property and bought a farm of one hundred and forty acres in Woodford county. There he lived for twenty years, when he disposed of that property, and in the fall of 1894 invested in a farm of two hundred and twenty-one acres on section 7, Lyndon township. To this he added until he now has three hundred and thirty-one acres of valuable farming land. In the spring of 1895 he removed to Chicago, where he remained for five years, leaving his farm in the care of his sons, William J. and Asa J., both of whom reside upon the property and are operating the fields. There are two houses upon the home place, one of which was built by Mr. Harkness of this review. He also erected other buildings which afford ample shelter for grain and stock, and while residing upon the farm he was largely engaged in stock raising. He also conducted a dairy business, milking thirty cows at one time. The farm is devoted to general agricultural pursuits and everything about the place is in keeping with the spirit of modern progressive agriculture.

In May, 1868, Mr. Harkness was married to Miss Johanna Richardson, who was born in England and died May 20, 1884, at the age of forty-six years. She had come to Illinois with her parents, Thomas and Rachel (Richardson) Richardson, who had located in Marshall county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hark-

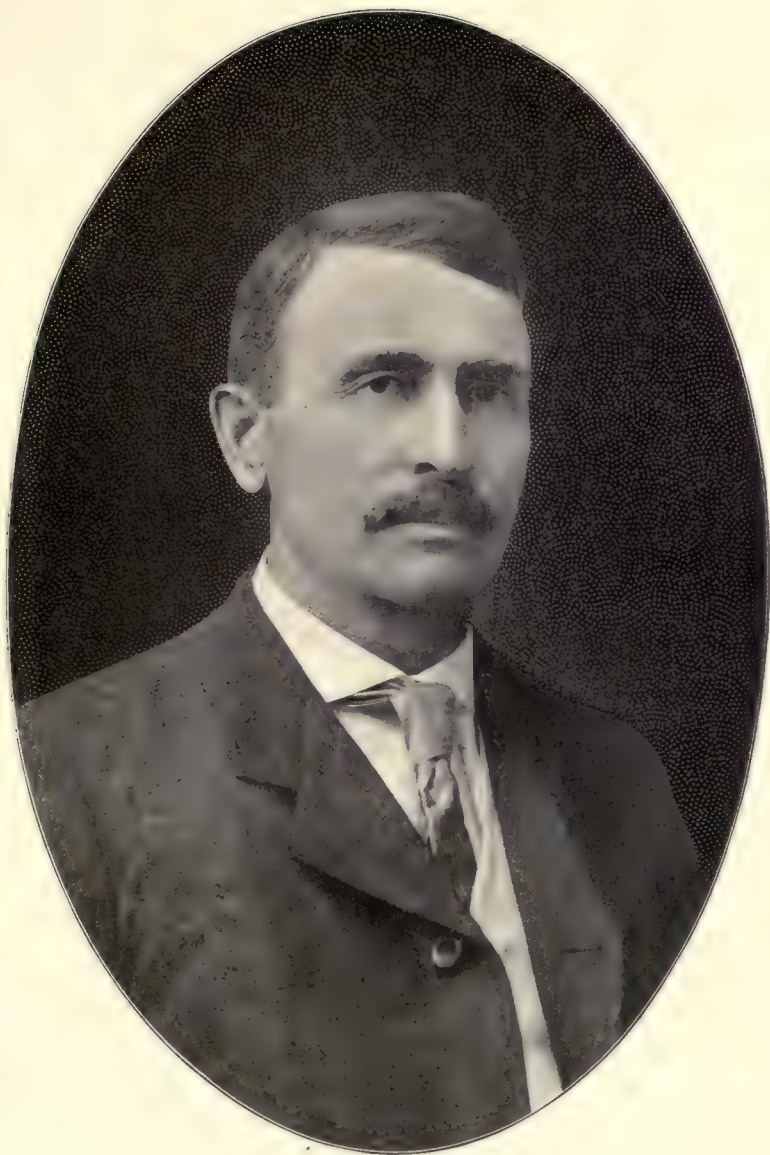
ness were born four children: Chester Thomas, a resident of Trego county, Kansas; William James and Asa Jay, who are operating their father's farm; and Grace Estella, at home. The second son, William James, was married December 24, 1902, to Grace L. Slade, a native of Pennsylvania, and unto them has been born a daughter, Martha Ernestine. Mrs. William J. Harkness was a daughter of Ephriam and May (Grace) Lewis, but was reared by an aunt and went by her name. For his second wife Porter Harkness chose Mrs. Martha E. Slade, whom he wedded in Chicago, September 21, 1893. She had been an old schoolmate of his in Pennsylvania, and she died in Chicago, January 9, 1900.

In politics Mr. Harkness was a stalwart republican from the time of the organization of the party, and previously was a whig. He belongs to the Baptist church at Sterling, and is also a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic, thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old army comrades, with whom he did valued service in defense of the stars and stripes. He has now passed the seventy-seventh milestone on life's journey and is practically living retired, while his sons operate the farm. He, however, resides on the old homestead on section 7, Lyndon township, and was formerly numbered among the active and leading agriculturists of the community. Since starting out in life on his own account in early manhood he had depended entirely upon his own resources for his success, and whatever prosperity he has enjoyed is attributable to his earnest and persistent labors.

GEORGE E. PADDOCK.

The name and labors of George E. Paddock are inseparably interwoven with the history of Prophetstown, especially in connection with its financial history. He is today well known in banking circles in Whiteside county and this part of the state as proprietor of the Bank of Prophetstown and cashier of the Farmers' National Bank. Both institutions are under his active management and their success is attributable to his thorough understanding of the business and capable management in its control.

Mr. Paddock, numbered among the native sons of New York, was born in the town of Turin, Lewis county, March 28, 1849. He traces his ancestry back to Robert Paddock, who was of English birth and the founder of the family in America, settling in the Plymouth colony in 1634. Daniel Paddock, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, was a member of the patriotic army in the war for independence and was a native of New York. His son, John Paddock, also born in the Empire state, became the father of Chauncey Paddock, who was born and reared in Westernville, Oneida county, New York. After arriving at years of maturity Chauncey Paddock was there married to Miss Lucy M. Hotchkiss, a native of Mexico, New York, in which state they began their domestic life, there residing until 1851, when they became residents of Whiteside county, Illinois. The family home was established on the Rock river near Prophetstown and the father secured a tract of



Geo. E. Paddock.

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land, devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, prosperity attending his labors as the years passed by. He was for forty-three years numbered among the worthy and valued citizens of his community and on the 16th of November, 1894, was called from this life, his remains being interred in the Prophetstown cemetery. His widow, still surviving him, lives in Prophetstown, at the age of eighty-eight years.

George E. Paddock was but two years old when brought by his parents to Whiteside county. His boyhood and youth were spent on the home farm with his parents and he mastered the elementary branches of learning as a public-school student in Prophetstown. Later he attended the Northern Illinois College at Fulton and in 1870 went to California with the family, spending one season on the Pacific slope. Following his return to Whiteside county, Mr. Paddock engaged in farming until 1880, since which time he has figured prominently in banking circles in Prophetstown. In that year he was appointed cashier of the Mattson Bank and so continued until the death of Mr. Mattson, when he succeeded to the business. It has been conducted as a private bank since 1886, under the name of the Bank of Prophetstown, and under the guidance of Mr. Paddock its patronage has increased and the business has been extended in its scope. In 1892 he erected a good two-story brick building on a corner of the main business street and the bank of Prophetstown was there installed in January, 1893. Mr. Paddock, however, further extended his activities through the establishment of the Farmers' National Bank, of Prophetstown, in 1902. In this enterprise he was associated with Nathan Thompson, who is president, while Mr. Paddock has from the beginning been cashier. He has the active management of both banks. In 1902 he erected a business block, to which he removed the Bank of Prophetstown in 1902, while the Farmers' National Bank continued business at the old stand.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Paddock was married May 6, 1873, in Prophetstown, to Miss Ella M. Quigley, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, who in early life came with her family to this county and completed her education in the schools of Prophetstown. Her father, George B. Quigley, became one of the substantial farmers of this county and later removed to the vicinity of Evansville, Indiana. He died, however, in September, 1907, in his eighty-fifth year. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Paddock have been born four children: Hugh, who is cashier in the Bank of Prophetstown; Jessie L., the wife of Oliver P. Petty, now assistant cashier of the Farmers' National Bank; Louis M., who died of typhoid fever at Hot Springs, Arkansas, in September, 1902, at the age of twenty years; and Gladys, who is now a senior in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois.

Mr. Paddock has not only figured prominently in business circles, but has also been an active factor in the various concerns which have affected the welfare and promoted the interests of his village. He is now school treasurer of Prophetstown, which position he has filled for thirty years, and the cause of public education finds in him a stalwart champion whose labors are effective and far-reaching. He is now president of the village and at other times has filled the same office while again he has been a member of

the village board. His public service is characterized by unfaltering devotion to the general good and by practical methods which are productive of gratifying results. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Royal Arch degree, and also has membership relations with the Illinois Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and his wife is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church. They are prominent socially, having a circle of friends that is co-extensive with their acquaintance. The life record of Mr. Paddock has been marked by orderly progression and in it there is not one esoteric phase. He is a man of strong individuality, of indomitable perseverance and indefatigable enterprise and has carved his name deeply on the record of the political and financial history of Whiteside county, while the village of his residence owes much of its advancement to his efforts.

RICHARD B. BURROUGHS.

Richard B. Burroughs dates his residence in Whiteside county from 1864, and in the years which have since come and gone he has witnessed many changes and at the same time has borne his part in the work of progress and improvement, especially in agricultural lines. He now lives on section 33, Prophetstown township, where he owns a farm of eighty-five acres. He was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, January 10, 1838, his parents being Selah and Louisa Burroughs. The former was a native of the state of New York, where he resided until after the death of his wife, when he removed to Erie county, Pennsylvania, where he remained for three years. In 1864 he arrived in Whiteside county, Illinois, and purchased land in Prophetstown township, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for his death occurred the following year. He was twice married, and by the first union there were four children, but Richard B. is the only one now living. By his second marriage he had four children: Carlos, a resident of Morrison, Illinois; Leonard H., living in Prophetstown; and two who have passed away.

Richard B. Burroughs remained in the east during the period of his minority and acquired a public school education. He came to the middle west, however, with his father, in 1864, and has since been a resident of Whiteside county. He purchased the farm of eighty-five acres upon which he now resides, and his time and energies, year after year, have been devoted to its further development and cultivation, his fields bringing forth good crops, while in all his business interests he has been actuated by laudable ambition, while his labors have been guided by sound judgment.

Mr. Burroughs perfected his arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage in 1872 to Miss Martha Griswold, who was born in the state of New York and was one of nine children. After a happy married life of twenty years she passed away in 1892, leaving a husband and two children to mourn her loss. The daughter, Lucy May, however, is now deceased, while the son, Merton, is at home.

Mr. Burroughs exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, for he feels that its platform contains the best elements of good government. He has held several township offices, to which he has been called by the vote of his fellow townsmen, who recognize him as a citizen of genuine worth. For a half century he has been a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and his life is at all times honorable and upright.

DANA B. SEGER, M. D.

Dr. Dana B. Seger, who has attained a gratifying measure of success in the practice of medicine in Morrison, was born in Rumford, Maine, January 4, 1842. His father, Allen Seger, a native of Maine, was a son of Nathaniel Seger, who served in a Massachusetts regiment in the Revolutionary war. The great-grandfather of Dr. Seger lived in Boston, but nothing is definitely known concerning the establishment of the family in the new world. Allen Seger was a farmer by occupation, and in 1852 came to the middle west, settling in Weathersfield township, Henry county, where he continued farming until the fall of 1852, when he removed to Erie, Whiteside county. Here he owned a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and carried on general agricultural pursuits. He spent his remaining days here, dying, in 1872, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was a member of the Christian church, and his life was ever upright and honorable. His political allegiance was given to the republican party. His wife, Achsa Howard, was born in Vermont, and was of English ancestry. Her father was Samuel Howard, a son of a Revolutionary hero, who enlisted from Massachusetts for service in the Continental army, serving as captain of his company. The Howards—three brothers—came to this country in 1636 and settled at Boston. Samuel Howard was a farmer and a carpenter and joiner. His daughter, Mrs. Seger, was also a member of the Christian church and a lady of many excellent traits of character. In the family were three children: Mary E. and Milton H., both deceased; and Dana B.

Dr. Seger was reared to farm life and attended the district and private schools in the acquirement of his literary education. He afterward studied medicine in the office of Dr. Samuel Taylor, in Erie and in Morrison, at which time Dr. Taylor was in partnership with Dr. Z. C. Ferson. Mr. Seger next entered the Rush Medical College, in 1865, and was graduated in 1868. He began practice at Erie, where he remained for fourteen years, removing to Morrison in 1882, since which time he has successfully prosecuted his profession here, becoming the family physician in many a household, a liberal patronage being accorded him. As he has prospered in his undertakings he has made judicious investment in property, and is now the owner of lands in Iowa and Missouri.

Dr. Seger was married in 1873 to Miss Catherine Reynolds, now deceased, who was born in Fenton township, a daughter of William and Ann

Reynolds, the father a pioneer carpenter of this county. Dr. and Mrs. Seger had three children: Inez K., at home; Ivy L., the wife of Luther E. Ramsay, an attorney-at-law of Morrison; and Ralph R., a student in the Illinois University.

Dr. Seger has a creditable military record, for in his early manhood, when he was but nineteen years of age, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, joining the army at Chicago in November, 1861, as a member of Company I, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. In May, 1862, he was discharged on account of disability, but re-enlisted at Dixon, Illinois, in 1864, in Company K of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, with which he served until October 8, 1865. He was then mustered out at New Orleans. On the date of his second enlistment he was detailed as hospital steward and served in that capacity in the field until discharged. During his first enlistment he participated in the battle of Fort Donelson.

He is now a member of Alpheus Clark Post, G. A. R., and he also belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of the Maccabees and the Modern Woodmen of America. His political allegiance is given the republican party, and while not a politician in the sense of office seeking, he has held some local offices. In the line of his profession he is connected with the County, the State and American Medical Associations, and through the interchange of thought and experience in those organizations, as well as by private study and research, he keeps in touch with the advance made by the profession, and thus continually promotes his efficiency. He discharges his duties with a sense of conscientious obligation that makes him one of the able members of the medical fraternity of Whiteside county.

CARL S. COE.

The various business interests which contribute to the sum total of Sterling's commercial activity and enterprise find a worthy representative in Carl S. Coe, a dealer in cigars, newspapers, magazines and periodicals, his place of business being at No. 3 East Third street. He is one of the county's native sons, his birth having occurred on a farm north of Sterling, July 14, 1878. His parents were Marcus Lafayette and Julia A. (Galt) Coe, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Upon the home farm in Hopkins township he was reared, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of farm life for him in his boyhood and youth. He mastered the preliminary branches of English learning as a pupil in the district schools, and afterward attended the public schools of Sterling. When not occupied with his text-books his time and attention were given to the work of the farm, and he was thus connected with agricultural interests until twenty years of age when, thinking to find other pursuits more congenial, he began clerking in the grocery store of W. H. Over & Company, with whom he remained for several years. He then joined his father in a partnership in the grocery business under the firm style of M. L. Coe & Son, which relation was main-

tained up to the time of the father's death. Later Carl S. Coe was employed as a salesman in the Bee Hive for three years, upon the expiration of which period he bought his present cigar and news depot, and has since conducted a large, constantly growing and profitable business.

On the 20th of May, 1904, Mr. Coe was married to Miss Harriet V. Howland, a daughter of James H. and Elizabeth H. Howland, who became early settlers of Whiteside county, taking up their abode in Coloma township, where Mr. Howland followed farming. He and his wife are now residents of Sterling, and unto them were born two daughters and two sons, namely: Harry; Bert; Alice, the wife of W. J. Sowles; and Mrs. Harriet Coe. Unto our subject and his wife has been born a son, James Marcus Coe. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and the family residence is at No. 412 Avenue C.

In his political allegiance Mr. Coe is a republican, but while giving hearty and loyal support to the party, he never seeks or desires public office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. In trade circles he has been watchful of his opportunities, has utilized the advantages which have come to him and is now enjoying creditable success derived from the conduct of a constantly increasing business.

JOHN BOYD.

John Boyd has retired from active business life, although still residing on his finely improved farm just south of Morrison. In a history of those long and prominently connected with the county, he well deserves mention, for he has been a resident here since July, 1850, being one of the few remaining old settlers. He came directly from Scotland after a brief interval of a week spent in Chicago, where he awaited his opportunity to secure a ride in a lumber wagon to Dixon. The stage at that time made regular trips between Dixon and Fulton, and he reached the former city just too late to make the stage trip and so hired a man to bring him to Whiteside county. He has since made six trips back to Scotland, but while having the warmest attachment for the land of his birth, he is equally sincere and loyal in his devotion to the land of his adoption, and has the utmost love for the stars and stripes.

Mr. Boyd was born in Ayrshire, in the parish of Dalry, twenty miles south of Glasgow, September 1, 1826, and was there reared to manhood, a son of William and Mary (Robinson) Boyd. The reports which he heard concerning America and the advantage which she offered to her people, induced him to try his fortune in the new world. He arrived with a capital of about ninety dollars, which has since been increased many hundredfold, for in his undertakings he has been very successful, and as the years have passed has acquired a handsome competence. He began farming on his own account on what is now the old homestead, in Mount Pleasant township, just east of his present home. For six years after his arrival he worked for others

at threshing and in different departments of farm labor. He early formed the resolve that he would ever be straightforward and honest in his business dealings, and this course he has resolutely pursued, with the result that his is an unsullied name, and in business circles his word is recognized as being as good as his bond. His first farm comprised one hundred and thirty acres of land, but as opportunity offered, he added to his possessions from time to time, until he owned over six hundred acres of land. Although he has since disposed of a portion of this, he yet retains over three hundred acres of valuable farm property. As the years have passed he has prospered, conducting large business dealings, yet has never had a lawsuit. He would prefer to suffer a small loss rather than appear in the courts, but his own justice and fair dealing have almost invariably secured him such treatment in return.

In February, 1857, in the land of hills and heather, Mr. Boyd was married to Miss Isabella Archibald, who was also a native of the parish of Dalry, and was there reared, a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Easdale) Archibald. For a half century they traveled life's journey happily together as man and wife, and they were then separated by the hand of death, Mrs. Boyd passing away on the 8th of March, 1907, at the age of eighty-two years. They had met together many hardships and difficulties, had worked side by side for the attainment of success and for the interests of their family, and as the years passed their mutual love and confidence increased. Mrs. Boyd is most lovingly remembered for her many deeds of kindness in the community, the poor and needy finding in her a friend, while those in sorrow or distress received her sure and warm sympathy.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Boyd were born three children, but the daughter, Mary, died at the age of seventeen years. The elder son, James Boyd, is now cashier of a bank in Kearney, Nebraska, where he has made his home for the past twenty years. He is married and has a son eleven years of age, and also lost one son in infancy. William, now residing in Morrison, married a daughter of M. S. Heaton. He spent several years in Kearney, Nebraska, but returned to Morrison, and is now connected with the condensed milk factory there, driving over the country in the interests of the company.

For many years John Boyd, of this review, led a most active life and was widely known as an enterprising farmer, who kept abreast with the times in all lines of agricultural improvement. In addition to the tilling of the soil he followed the dairy business for several years, and also bought and shipped cattle, making a specialty of milk cows. He devoted the last twenty years of his business life to the cattle business. He is now living retired, having a fine farm, upon which he has made all of the improvements. About eighteen or twenty years ago he erected his present commodious and beautiful residence, and here he is now spending the evening of his life in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He has reached the venerable age of eighty-two years, but keeps in touch with the interests of the day and in spirit seems much younger. Politically he has always been a democrat, but never an aspirant for office. His time and energies have been concentrated upon his business interests with gratifying success, and his life may well serve as an example to others, showing what may be accomplished by persistent, hon-

orable effort. No word has ever been uttered against his good name, and on the contrary he enjoys to the fullest degree the respect and confidence of those with whom he has been associated. He has always stood for all that is just and right in man's relations with his fellowmen, and has ever endorsed movements for the benefit of the county along material, intellectual, social and moral lines.

H. C. CONRADY.

It is always a source of encouragement to others to learn of the history of a self-made man who in the pursuit of an honorable purpose and untiring activity in business affairs wins a goodly measure of success. Such has been the record of H. C. Conrady, who follows farming and stock-raising on section 23, Union Grove township. Six years ago he purchased this farm of two hundred acres, which is now finely improved, being equipped with many modern accessories and conveniences, while the well kept appearance of the place indicates his careful and systematic management. He is one of the county's native sons, having been born in April, 1865, in Clyde township, where he resided until fourteen years ago.

His parents, Henry and Christina (Zugschwerdt) Conrady, are both now deceased, the former having died in 1895, when more than eighty-six years of age, while the latter passed away in 1881, at the age of fifty-four years. Henry Conrady came from Germany to the United States in 1840, casting in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Whiteside county when almost the entire countryside presented the appearance of a wild and undeveloped tract of land, unacquainted with the labors of the white race. He purchased part of his land at a dollar and a quarter per acre and also bought other tracts, securing about one hundred and fifteen acres, which he devoted to general farming. His political views endorsed the democratic party and his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Catholic church.

Unto him and his wife were born nine children: James, a retired farmer living in Kingsley, Iowa; William, of Carroll county, Illinois, who for many years followed agricultural pursuits but is now retired; Henry C., of this review; Frank, a resident of Kingsley, Iowa; Julia, who is also living in the same place; Mrs. Lizzie Senniff, whose husband is a farmer of Carroll county, Illinois; Clara, who died at the age of twenty years; Mrs. Dora Taylor, who died at Chadwick, Carroll county, Illinois, in the fall of 1905; and Mrs. Katie Aldritt, whose husband operates a farm in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

H. C. Conrady spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Clyde township and when twenty-one years of age started out in life on his own account. As he had no capital it was necessary that he earn the money to enable him to become a landowner. For sixteen years he cultivated rented land but all this time was possessed of a laudable ambition to one day own a farm and by carefully saving his earnings he was at length enabled to purchase his present farm in the fall of 1901. It was formerly known as the Thomas Harrison

place and comprises two hundred acres of productive soil that responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. The plowing and planting of early spring are followed by bounteous harvests in the late autumn and thus year by year he is adding to his competency.

In 1892, in Iowa, Mr. Conrady was married to Miss Ella Jane Huffman, who was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, in 1866, a daughter of Joseph and Susan J. (Light) Huffman, who became residents of Iowa in 1868, settling in Jackson county, where they remained a number of years. Both are now deceased, the father having died in 1880, at the age of forty-two years, while the mother passed away November 1, 1906, at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of ten children: Edwin, who is living in Kingsley, Iowa; Harvey, who resides on the old home farm in Clinton county; Joseph, living at Monmouth, Jackson county, Iowa; John, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Mrs. Lucina Kauffman, of Jackson county, Iowa; Mrs. Anne Hicks, whose husband is a farmer of Ames, Iowa; Mrs. Conrady; Mrs. Virta Wade, who died at her home in Nebraska about 1894; Mrs. Emroy Leatherberry, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and Mrs. Nellie Durkee, of Carroll county, Illinois.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Conrady was blessed with a son and daughter: Lester H., who was born in Clyde township March 14, 1895; and Nellie G., born September 25, 1900, in Carroll county, Illinois. The parents are well known in this part of the state, where they have many friends. Politically a democrat, Mr. Conrady has been called to serve as tax collector and in other local offices of Clyde township and has also been officially connected with the schools as a director. Both he and his wife hold membership with the Mystic Workers of Morrison.

HARLOW SMITH.

In a history of those who have been factors in Whiteside county's agricultural development mention should be made of Harlow Smith, who for a long period was connected with farming interests here. He came from Canada to Whiteside county in 1848 and died in Hume township on the 27th of February, 1905. His birth occurred in Preston, Canada, May 19, 1830. His parents, William and Ana (Southerland) Smith, were both natives of Vermont, and in early life crossed the border into Canada and were there identified with farming interests throughout the remainder of their days. They had a family of thirteen children, but only one is now living—Mrs. Electa Dolph, who resides in Preston, Canada.

Harlow Smith spent the first eighteen years of his life in the place of his nativity and acquired a public-school education. He then came to Illinois, believing that better business opportunities were to be enjoyed in the United States than in the Dominion and that while competition was livelier success was more quickly secured. He located in Prophetstown, where he began working for Warner Brothers in driving a team, hauling wood and

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HARLOW SMITH.



MRS. HARLOW SMITH.

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grain to Peoria, Illinois, and to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He would then bring back a load of merchandise and spent about three weeks on the trip. For two years he remained in the employ of that firm, after which he took up the arduous task of breaking prairie, and through his labors the sod was turned on many an acre and the first furrows made in the development of the fields. Desiring to own a farm of his own, he carefully saved his earnings and his first investment in property brought to him eighty acres of land in Prophetstown township. With characteristic energy he began its development and later sold that tract and bought eighty acres in Tampico township. His next purchase made him owner of one hundred and sixty acres, which he broke and developed. About this time wheat went to two dollars per bushel and as there was no money in the county and he had raised no crop, he was forced to give up all of his land but eighty acres, which he sold. Many of the early settlers experienced very hard times owing to the fact that there was little market for their crops and, while prices were very high on many commodities which they were forced to purchase, there was little ready money in the west.

In 1865 Mr. Smith purchased two hundred acres of land on section 34, Hume township, which his son William now owns. As the years passed he speculated quite largely in land and was very successful, at one time owning over one thousand acres. He also owned and operated a threshing machine for fifty years and as a thresher conducted a prosperous business, for comparatively few in the county owned threshing machines and his services were in constant demand. When he bought the farm in Hume township there was a small house upon it and a prairie stable, and the land was fenced. Otherwise it was unimproved, but the unfaltering energy and diligence of Mr. Smith wrought a transformation in his home place, which he converted into one of the finest farms of the county. He was a large stock-raiser, keeping on hand one hundred and fifty head of cattle and sixty-five head of horses. He also raised hogs to the value of from one to two thousand dollars per year.

On the 2d of December, 1855, Mr. Smith was married in Lyndon to Miss Louisa Pope, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, in the village of Spaulding, October 5, 1838. Her parents were Abraham and Sarah (Crampton) Pope. Her father, born in 1808, died in 1892 and her mother, born in 1807, passed away in 1889. They came to America in 1850, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, which was seven weeks in completing the voyage from England to New Orleans. They thence came up the Mississippi river to Albany and located at Lyndon, Illinois. The father was a cabinet-maker in England and after coming to the United States worked as a carpenter. He also bought land near Lyndon, but after six years sold that property and removed to Tampico township, where he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of prairie that he cultivated and improved successfully, carrying on farm work there until 1878, when he retired and went to Vancouver Island with his wife. They had a daughter living there and the death of Mr. Pope occurred on that island. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pope were born eight children, of whom five are yet living: Mrs. Emma Turgoose, who is living in Van-

couver; Mrs. Sarah Mummert, of Waukena, Kansas; Mrs. Smith; Thomas, who resides in Manchester, Iowa; and Aaron, who is living in Tampico, Illinois.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born six children: Carrie L., the wife of Fred Brown, a farmer of Hume township; Ida, the wife of R. B. Smith, of Prophetstown, by whom she had two children, Henry A. and Harlow E.; Sarah E., the wife of James J. Farrell, of Prophetstown township; William N., at home; Minnie E., the widow of Dr. T. L. Round and living upon the old homestead; and Herbert H., who married Miss Dolly Teach, residing at Craig, Canada.

Of this family, William N. Smith was born September 14, 1864, and has always remained at home. He now owns the old homestead property in Whiteside county of two hundred acres and eight hundred acres in Canada. He was his father's able assistant and has made a success of life, capably managing his business affairs so that they bring to him an excellent financial return. He owns and operates a threshing machine outfit and is greatly interested in stock-raising, having upon his place some fine bred horses that have shown considerable speed. The management of his father's business interests largely developed upon him as soon as he was old enough to take the responsibility, for his father had received but limited educational privileges in early life and was considerably handicapped thereby. In politics William N. Smith has always been deeply interested and has held several offices in his township, serving also as a member of the county central committee of the republican party. At local elections, however, he believes in supporting candidates without regard to party affiliation.

Harlow Smith was a stalwart republican in his political views, while for some years he served as school director. He believed in employing good teachers and maintaining efficient schools, and in fact he advocated progress along various lines that are helpful to the individual and the community at large. As the years passed he won a notable success through his judicious investments and capable management and at his death left an estate valued at seventy-five thousand dollars. His genuine worth had gained for him a host of warm friends, so that his demise was deeply regretted throughout the entire community. Mrs. Smith is a lady of innate culture and refinement, devoted to her family, and in the county has a host warm friends.

THOMAS ALEXANDER GALT.

Honored and respected by all, there is no man who has occupied a more enviable position in the business life of Whiteside county than Thomas Alexander Galt, and it is therefore imperative that mention be made of him in this volume. As a business man and citizen he has contributed in substantial measure to the welfare and upbuilding of city and county. His industrial and commercial interests have been so extensive and important that the business development of this section of the state has been greatly enhanced

thereby, while at the same time his enterprises have proven a source of gratifying individual profit. The methods that he has employed in his business life are such as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

Mr. Galt was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, January 13, 1828. The ancestry of the family is traced back to Robert Galt, who came to this country from the north of Ireland and settled in Lancaster county in 1710, there following the occupation of farming. The line of descent comes down through James, Thomas, James and William Galt to Thomas Alexander Galt of this review, all natives of Pennsylvania. The grandfather, James Galt, was also born in Lancaster county, and in connection with farming followed the occupation of milling. He died there at the age of sixty-five years, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Martin, attained a very advanced age. Their family numbered five sons and five daughters, including William Galt, also a native of Lancaster county. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and always gave his attention to the tilling of the soil throughout his business career. He was born in 1794, and his life record covered a span of forty-eight years. He wedded Mary Ann Thomas, a native of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and daughter of Zaddock Thomas, who was born in the same county, and in early life followed merchandising, while later he became president of the Montgomery County Bank, and for many years remained at the head of that financial institution. He married Ruth Thomas, and both died when about ninety-two years of age. In their family were two daughters and a son: Mary Ann, who became the wife of William Galt; Julia Ann, the wife of James Galt, both now deceased; and Ezeriah Thomas, who spent the greater part of his life in Chester county, Pennsylvania.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. William Galt were born ten children, six sons and four daughters: Amanda, the widow of James L. Crawford, of Sterling; Julia, the deceased wife of James T. Lowrey; Thomas A., of this review; Isabella, who became the wife of Alexander McCloy, of Sterling, but is now deceased; Ezeriah Thomas, a resident of Chicago; Dr. William James, who is now deceased; John M., who in early life was a prominent business man of Sterling, but is also deceased; Zaddock Thomas, deceased; Ruth A., the widow of Dr. Pennington, of Sterling; and Francis Randolph, who died in infancy. All were born upon the old home farm in East Earl township, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, which property is still in possession of the Galt family. The mother, long surviving her husband, passed away in Sterling in 1870, at the age of seventy years. Both were devoted members of the Presbyterian church and earnest Christian people.

Thomas A. Galt was reared in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, remaining upon the old home farm until fifteen years of age, and pursuing his education in the old fashioned roadside school. When a youth of fifteen he began earning his own living as a clerk in Concord, Pennsylvania, and the succeeding year went to Strasburg, Pennsylvania, where he was employed as a salesman from 1845 to 1847, inclusive. In 1848 he accepted a position in a wholesale dry goods store in Philadelphia, where he continued for a year, returning to Strasburg in 1849. There he bought out the business of

his old employer and continued as a merchant of that place for six years. He arranged to purchase the store on credit, and the confidence reposed in him by his former employer is indicated by the fact of this arrangement, and also by the fact that Mr. Galt was not then twenty-one years of age.

The year 1855 witnessed the arrival of Thomas Alexander Galt in Sterling, and he soon became an active factor in its commercial interests, forming a partnership in the hardware business with David M. Crawford, with whom he was associated for two years under the firm style of Galt & Crawford. He then purchased his partner's interest and admitted his brother, John M. Galt, to the firm under the style of Thomas A. Galt & Brother. They were thus associated for seven or eight years, when they disposed of the hardware store and Thomas A. Galt turned his attention to the manufacture of farm machinery in connection with George S. Tracey. They also conducted a planing mill and sash and door factory, thus extending the scope of their activity and contributing to the industrial enterprise and business development of the county. Their property increased and the business prospered until 1867, when the plant was destroyed by fire, but with undaunted courage they rebuilt on a more extensive scale, and in 1870 incorporated the Keystone Manufacturing Company, with a capital stock of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. This company manufactured a general line of farm machinery, which they sold in all parts of the world. In 1870, also in association with Mr. Tracey, Mr. Galt incorporated the Sterling Manufacturing Company for the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, etc., but this has also been converted into a farm machinery plant. Their business developed into one of the largest manufacturing concerns of the country. They employed several hundred workmen, and thus placed large amounts of money in circulation in Sterling, Rock Falls and Whiteside county. They encouraged thrift and industry among their men and induced many of them to build homes in Rock Falls, while others built dwellings in Sterling. The plants were removed to Rock Falls, and the business was continued under the name of the Keystone Manufacturing Company until it was merged into the National Harvester Company. Mr. Galt was a moving spirit in this enterprise which became one of the foremost industrial concerns of Illinois. In all things he displayed an aptitude for successful management, formed his plans readily and carried them forward to successful completion. For more than forty years he was connected with those business interests which proved not only a valuable element in his individual success, but contributed so largely to the city's moral development and prosperity. He was also the promoter of the Eureka Manufacturing Company, which was first organized for the manufacture of school furniture, and was one of the largest of the kind in the west. Since then it has been converted into a carriage manufacturing company, which has grown to be an extensive enterprise, nearly one-half of the product of the factory being shipped to foreign countries, a large amount of this being sent to Buenos Ayres, South America. They also made extensive shipments to South Africa until the Boer war, sending direct to Capetown and Port Elizabeth. There are few industrial interests of Sterling or of Rock Falls which have not been promoted or received the assistance of Mr. Galt,

who is still interested in a number there. He also erected the Galt House in 1876, and it has since been the leading hotel of Sterling and this part of the state. In connection with his partner, George S. Tracey, he built the Academy of Music, and he also built a number of other business blocks of the city and private residences. He erected the handsome building recently donated to the city for a hospital and now known as the Galt-Brookfield Hospital.

Mr. Galt has always been a very busy man and still has large property interests in Sterling. He owns much improved and unimproved property and from his realty interests derives a most gratifying annual income. He deserves all the praise implied in the term, a "self-made man," for he started out in the business world without capital and without special training. He early came to a realization of the fact that enterprise and unwearied industry constitute a safe basis upon which to build the superstructure of success, and thus he has builded up the business interests which are a monument to his active, useful life. His first year's salary when he began for himself was but fifty dollars. He bought but one suit of clothes a year and practiced economy in various ways until his well directed labor and careful expenditure secured for him capital sufficient to enable him to engage in business on his own account.

Mr. Galt was married in October, 1850, to Miss Sallie Julila Jones, of New Hartford, Connecticut, who died in 1853. In 1856 he wedded Miss Catherine Anthony, of Borodino, New York, a daughter of Isaac and Permelia (Phelps) Anthony. There were eight children of that marriage. Elliott LeRoy, the eldest, now engaged in the banking business in Sterling, married Annie Carter, of Worcester, Massachusetts, and they had five children, of whom four are now living: Thomas Arthur, Margaret Adelia, Helen and Donald Alexander. For his second wife Elliott L. Galt wedded Mary Harvey, of Sterling, Illinois, and they have one son, Robert Harvey. Helen Jane Galt, the second member of the father's family, is the widow of Louis Edwin Brookfield, and they had three children, Emily Catharine, Fannie Harriet and Edwin Galt Brookfield. Mary Permelia is the next of the family. Emily Catharine is the wife of Orville P. Bassett, editor of the Springfield News, and they have one daughter, Emily Catharine. Ruth Galt became the wife of Frank W. Murphy, and they have two children, Catharine Virginia and Edwin Brookfield Murphy. Three of the children of Thomas A. and Catherine (Anthony) Galt died in early childhood. For his third wife Mr. Galt chose Mrs. Mary (Holmes) Ross, a daughter of Samuel and Catherine Holmes.

Mr. Galt has always been active in support of public enterprises and has been particularly generous in his contributions to the churches. While he is a Presbyterian in religious faith, he has given substantial encouragement to other denominations and rejoices in what is accomplished in behalf of religion. His ancestors and the later generations of the family since the first Galt came to America, in 1710, have never deviated from the Presbyterian faith with the exception of one, who became affiliated with the Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Galt was originally a whig, but upon the organiza-

tion of the new republican party he joined its ranks and has since followed its banners. While in no sense a politician, he has had personal acquaintance with many distinguished party leaders and public men, some of whom have attained national reputation, including Lincoln, Grant, and others. He never held but one office, and that the mayor of Sterling, in which capacity he served for one year, being the first temperance mayor of the city, and filling the office at great sacrifice to himself, as it demanded time and attention which should have been given to the furtherance of his business interests. His administration was of a most practical, business-like and progressive character, resulting in the achievement of needed reforms and in the advancement of the work of improvement along lines which have been of utmost benefit. Mr. Galt has today passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey. By the consensus of public opinion he is placed among the foremost in the ranks of those men whose labors have been of the utmost value to the city and county. His business is widely acknowledged as a factor in the commercial and industrial development of the locality. His example is such as many might profitably heed, following the obvious lessons which it contains, for the course which he marked out for himself and which he has closely followed is such as leads to splendid character development as well as to the acquirement of material prosperity.

JOHN PEPPER.

John Pepper is now living retired in Erie, having passed the eighty-fifth milestone on life's journey. He was born in Wentworth, County York, England, a son of John and Mary (Pepper) Pepper, who were cousins and spent their entire lives in England. John Pepper of this review was the fifth of that name who resided upon the rented farm in England on which his birth occurred. It was a tract of land of one hundred and ninety-five acres and his father employed five men in its cultivation. The family numbered four sons and two daughters but the subject of this review is the only one who became a resident of America. One brother and one sister, however, are still living in England. The parents continued to reside in that country until called to their final rest, the death of the father occurring when he was seventy-one years of age, while his wife died at the age of eighty-two years. His mother died in the nineties. She had never been ill a day in her life and did her housework on the day that she died. She had reared a family of eleven children and throughout her entire life enjoyed remarkable health.

John Pepper whose name introduces this review remained upon the home farm until fifteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade, which he followed in his native land until he reached the age of twenty-six years, when he determined to seek a home and fortune in the new world. Accordingly, he bade adieu to friends and native country and sailed for the United States, taking up his abode at Adrian, Michigan, in 1850. He there worked at the carpenter's trade and helped to build the first railroad

shops at that place. Adrian was at that time a town of about thirty-five hundred inhabitants. Mr. Pepper worked at carpentering for two or three years and then assisted in the building of the railroad shops, after which he was employed in the shops. He was afterward engaged in the railroad shops at LaPorte, Indiana, for several years and subsequently removed to Bloomington, where he worked for several years in the shops of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company. His next removal took him to Jackson, Tennessee, where he was again employed in the railroad shops, his efficiency in mechanical pursuits enabling him to readily obtain a position wherever he went. He remained in the south until October, 1861, when he returned to the north, making his way to Whiteside county. Here he located on a farm on the river bottoms, four miles west of the village of Erie, in Erie township, having purchased the property in 1857, when on a visit to this district. He had invested in one hundred acres of land, which he has owned continuously since, or for a period of more than a half century. Later he extended the original boundaries of his place until he now owns one hundred and eighty acres in that farm and in addition has seven acres of timber land. He did not remain long upon the farm after his arrival from Tennessee, however, but went to Clinton, Iowa, where he engaged in the building of passenger coaches for the railroad company, having charge of the coach department. He worked there for eleven years, or until the big shops were built at Chicago. In the meantime he had become the owner of a nice home in Clinton, which he erected, but at the time of the transfer of the railroad interests to Chicago he disposed of his house in Clinton and took up his abode upon his farm in Erie township, where he continued to reside until about four years ago, when he put aside agricultural pursuits and became a resident of the village. His life has been a very busy, useful and active one and his untiring industry in industrial and agricultural lines has brought to him the measure of success which he is now enjoying.

On the 8th of November, 1859, occurred the marriage of Mr. Pepper and Miss Emily Oakey, a native of Birmingham, England, born July 14, 1841. She came to the United States in 1852, with her parents, Isaac and Anna (Hunt) Pepper, both of whom were natives of England. On crossing the Atlantic they located in Laporte, Indiana, and her father there worked in the railroad shops at the time that Mr. Pepper was thus employed at that point. They afterward removed to Whiteside county and resided upon the farm which is now the property of Mr. Pepper. It was upon this farm that the marriage of our subject and his wife occurred and they have become the parents of three children: Frances, the wife of Joshua Stephenson, of Rock Island county, Illinois, by whom she has three children: Wallace, Harvey and Clara D.; Mrs. Henry Osburn, of Oklahoma, who has one daughter, Mabel, who married Benjamin Fisher, a native of England, and is now living in Oklahoma; and Clara, the wife of James Gray, of Monticello, Illinois. She was previously married to Edward Andrews, who died, leaving a daughter, Dorcas.

Since becoming a naturalized American citizen Mr. Pepper has given his support to the democratic party. He cast his first vote for Franklin Pierce, declaring his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States in 1851,

just in time to secure him the right of franchise for voting at the election in which Pierce was chosen for the president. Mr. Pepper has served as road officer and has been officially connected with the schools. He has ever been a wide reader and has thus kept in touch with the trend of progressive thought. A love of music has ever been one of his salient characteristics and at the age of sixteen years he became a member of a band in England, with which he played until he came to the United States. He also played with a band in Adrian, Michigan, in Clinton, Iowa, and in Fulton, Illinois. His love of music has been a source of great enjoyment to him throughout his entire life and he possesses more than ordinary talent in that direction. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world, for he found here the opportunities he sought and through the improvement of the advantages which opened to him he worked his way steadily upward, making a creditable record as a business man, both in the honorable methods he followed and in the success he attained. He is now one of the honored and venerable citizens of Erie, having reached the eighty-fifth milestone on the journey of life, while the record he has made may well serve as an example and as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others.

ALBERT T. ABBOTT.

The name of Abbott is an old and familiar one in Whiteside county, for from its very earliest history representatives of the family have been closely identified with its agricultural development and progress. The gentleman whose name introduces this record was for many years identified with that field of activity, but his labors in former years now enable him to live retired, although he still retains his residence on his fine farm of two hundred and seventy acres, situated in Garden Plain township, this place constituting the old family homestead.

Albert T. Abbott was born in Chautauqua county, New York, July 20, 1842, a son of Clark and Betsy (Crouch) Abbott, natives of New Hampshire and New York, respectively. The family was founded in America by thirteen brothers, who emigrated to this country from Scotland prior to the time that this country was engaged in the struggle for independence. Landing in New York city, they there separated, establishing their homes in various sections of the New England states. Most of the brothers engaged in farming and several of them served in the American army in the war for independence. However, Moses Abbott, the grandfather of our subject, was a cripple and was therefore incapacitated for service. His family numbered several children, but there is record of but five, these being: Moses, who served in the Mexican war; Clark; John; Relief, who married a Mr. Cook; and Nora. The father of this family died in Vermont.

Clark Abbott, the father of our subject, was born and reared in New Hampshire. In 1843, hoping to enjoy better advantages in the west, he made his way to Illinois, settling near Aurora, where he made his home



A. T. ABBOTT

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until 1852, in which year he took up his abode in Whiteside county, taking up government land in Ustick township. At the time he settled in this locality there were but three other settlers in the township, these being Oliver Baker, Henry I. Burt and Aaron Ives. Here a long, strenuous task presented itself to him, but he met it with a steady, unwavering resolution. Wild game was still plentiful in this district and wolves frequently came in the dooryard. The houses, too, were very crude, being built by driving posts into the ground and covering them with slabs or clapboards on the outside, while in the winter a similar wall was made on the inside, the space between the boards being filled with dirt in order that the inmates might be better protected from the cold. The roof of the house was also made of clapboards and many times members of the family who were sleeping in the attic have wakened in the morning to find several inches of snow on the bed. The father soon developed his farm of one hundred and fifty acres and each year gathered good crops, for the soil was made rich and productive through the care and labor he bestowed upon it. The family had to endure many hardships and inconveniences during the pioneer epoch of this section of the state, the nearest milling point being at Jacobstown, in the northern portion of the county. The trip was made with ox teams, the journey requiring a day, and often upon reaching the mill one would have to wait a week in order to get his feed ground into bread stuff, this being the only milling place for a great area of country. In 1861 the loyalty and patriotism of Mr. Abbott was displayed when he organized a company for service in the Civil war, this being known as Company F, of the Ninety-third Illinois Regiment. He did not go to the front, however, as his son enlisted and his services were needed on the home farm and in the care of the wife and children. He continued to cultivate this property until 1868 and during this time took an active interest in public office. At various times he served as city marshal, being in the office about ten years, while for several terms he served as deputy sheriff and as constable. His death occurred in 1882, and thus the county lost one of its most valued and honored pioneer citizens, for from the time of his settlement here he had been known as a most industrious and useful man, whose probity was an unquestioned element in his career, and many times his energy was at the service of his community.

Clark Abbott was three times married. He was first married in the east to Miss Betsy Crouch, a native of New York, who died in 1845, two years after coming to this state. The children of that marriage, five in number, all lived to maturity, these being: Mariam, the deceased wife of Abner Ustick; Olive, the widow of John Johnson; Llewellyn, deceased; Leland, who served in the Civil war as a member of Company F, Ninety-third Illinois Infantry, and is now deceased; and Albert T., whose name introduces this record. The second wife of Mr. Abbott bore the name of Sarah Moore and by this marriage there was one daughter, Helen, who died of diphtheria, this being the first case of that disease in the county where death resulted. Mr. Abbott was married a third time to Mrs. Mary Wilson, nee Cocks, by whom he had a son and daughter: Clark, and Mary, the wife of Ollie Penoyer, a resident of Quincy, Illinois.

Albert T. Abbott was but a year old when he was brought from the east to Illinois and was a lad of eleven years at the time the removal was made to Whiteside county, so that he is thoroughly familiar with all the pioneer conditions that here existed at the time the family home was established in Ustick township. He shared with the other members of the household in all the hardships and privations incident to the development of a farm in a wild and unsettled district and acquired his education in a log schoolhouse in the neighborhood, the methods of instruction being equally as primitive as the building in which his studies were pursued. He assisted his father in the work of the home farm until 1861, when, the Civil war having been inaugurated, he displayed his loyalty by offering his services to the government and at the age of nineteen years became a member of Company F, Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Regiment, serving in the Seventy-fifth Corps. He participated in the battles of Vicksburg, Raymond and Jackson, Mississippi, and engaged in many other skirmishes and battles of lesser importance. After the surrender of Vicksburg, his regiment was attached to the Seventeenth Corps and he was engaged in the Atlanta campaign and was with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea. From Raleigh, North Carolina, the regiment marched to Washington, D. C., and from the latter place went to Louisville, Kentucky, thence making their way to Chicago, where Mr. Abbott was mustered out on the 5th of July, 1865, his term of service covering two years, eleven months and some days.

It was on the following day that Mr. Abbott returned to his home in Whiteside county and resumed his labors on the home farm. After two years, however, he established a home of his own by his marriage, in 1867, to Miss Eliza Wilson, a daughter of Mrs. Mary Wilson, nee Cocks, who became the third wife of Clark Abbott, the father of our subject. The young couple took up their abode upon a farm and in 1873 Mr. Abbott purchased the old homestead farm, comprising one hundred and fifty acres, for which he paid thirty-five dollars per acre. As the years passed and he prospered in his undertakings he added to his original holdings until his place now embraces two hundred and seventy acres, located in Garden Plain township. In his farm labor he has followed the most progressive and modern methods, so that his land is among the richest and most productive of Whiteside county, today being worth at least one hundred dollars per acre. For many years he was actively engaged in carrying on agricultural pursuits, but through his energy and careful management he has acquired a competence that now enables him to spend the evening of his days in honorable retirement, although he still maintains his residence on the old home farm.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott was blessed with two sons and a daughter: Louie, a resident of Garden Plains township; Lee, who is engaged in merchandising in Garden Plain; and Inez, the wife of Harry Bitler, who is engaged in farming at Albany. The wife and mother passed away in 1882. She was highly respected by all who knew her and her many friends and neighbors felt the deepest loss when she was called from this life.

Mr. Abbott's political views endorse the principles and policy of the democratic party and he has been called by the vote of his fellow townsmen

to fill various public offices, having served as road commissioner for twenty-nine years, while for nine years he served as assessor of his township, his official duties having been discharged with the same promptness and fidelity that he displays in the management of his private business affairs. Having lived in Whiteside county from his infancy, Mr. Abbott is familiar with all the pioneer conditions of this section of the state. He has seen the country developed into one of the foremost districts of this great state and through struggle and adversity has made his way to the front until today, crowned with a comfortable competence he stands in the same relation to his fellowmen as he did in his early years when struggling for a livelihood, recognizing and appreciating honest purpose and genuine worth and rating the individual by his merits and not by his possessions. Today at the age of sixty-six years he lives a contented and happy life and enjoys the rest which he so well deserves.

JOSEPH C. SNYDER.

Joseph C. Snyder, whose life record is a valuable asset in contemporaneous history in Albany and Whiteside county, was born July 18, 1844, in the town which is still his home. His parents, Joseph and Nancy (Clarke) Snyder, were both natives of Ohio, and in 1844 came from Cincinnati, making the journey westward in the month of April by way of Cairo and St. Louis. Joseph Snyder had previously visited Whiteside county in 1836, but had returned to Ohio, had married there and made his home in the Buckeye state for eight years. Following his arrival in Illinois in 1844, he first purchased forty acres of land in Garden Plain township. He afterward entered a claim from the government, and also purchased more land and became one of the extensive land owners of the county, having at the time of his death about nine hundred acres. His business interests were carefully and honorably conducted, and his success therefore gained for him the respect and admiration of his fellowmen. When he journeyed westward to Illinois he employed a young man to drive a team from Cincinnati, and thus bring a portion of the household goods. After reaching Whiteside county the young man traded one of his horses for his first land. In those early days Chicago was the market for the people of this district. It was necessary to haul all wheat to that point, and upon the return trip Mr. Snyder would bring home the necessities of life and a few of its comforts. He continued to do his trading at Chicago until about 1855, when the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was built through. The pork which he sold in the city was all dressed at home, and the first market for that product was at Galena, about sixty-five miles distant. A little before the Northwestern Railroad was built, the Rock Island was completed, and Geneseo became the market for wheat, Joseph C. Snyder and his father hauling wheat to that point. It was there that Mr. Snyder of this review first saw a railroad train. In his farming operations the father was very successful and became recognized as one of the prominent

and influential residents of this district. He died in the month of March, 1889, leaving a widow and nine children. Mrs. Snyder survived until May, 1891, when she, too, was called to her final rest.

The sons and daughters of the family are as follows: Joseph C., of this review; John H., who is living in Garden Plain township; Mary, the wife of Lafayette Clarke, of Morrison, Illinois; Sanford, of Nebraska; William, whose home is in the state of Washington; Annie, the wife of Henry Harner, of Beatrice, Nebraska; Alonzo S., who is living in Lewiston, Michigan; Edward, who is located in Garden Plain township; and Hattie, the wife of J. E. Wadsworth, of Morrison, Illinois.

Joseph C. Snyder, whose name introduces this record, was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and in the winter seasons attended the district schools. As he was the eldest child of the family, his opportunities for acquiring an education were somewhat limited, for his services were needed on the farm and it was only when the farm work was practically over for the year that he had the opportunity of attending school. He was eighteen years of age when he joined the Union army, in June, 1862, becoming a member of Company F, of the Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain A. F. Knight and Colonel Holden Putnam, of Freeport, Illinois. The regiment was attached to the Seventeenth Army Corps, with which Mr. Snyder served for two years. During that time he participated in the battle of Jackson, Mississippi, in 1863, after having previously taken part in the battle of Raymond, Mississippi. He was also in the engagement at Champion Hills, where twenty-two men of his company were killed or wounded. He was also in a severe skirmish on Big Black River, Mississippi, between Jackson and Vicksburg, and on the 19th of May the army under General Grant closed in on Vicksburg and Mr. Snyder participated in the siege of the city until the 22d of May, when Grant ordered the historical charge on the breastworks of Vicksburg, in which Mr. Snyder took part. From this time on until the fall of the city, on the 4th of July, 1863, he was under constant fire from the Confederate guns. Like most of the men engaged in the siege, he felt the greatest satisfaction and pride when the city finally surrendered, knowing that it meant a signal victory for the Union forces and showed a very weak point in the Confederate strength. Then, too, it had not been altogether pleasant to be under such constant fire from the enemy's guns.

Following the capitulation of Vicksburg, his corps was ordered north, and for a time was at Helena, Arkansas, and at Memphis, Tennessee. From the latter town they marched to Chattanooga, and on the 20th of November reached their destination. Shortly afterward Mr. Snyder participated in the battle of Mission Ridge, where, on the 25th of November, 1863, he was wounded in the left ankle. This necessitated his remaining in the hospital and on crutches for six months. After recovering the use of his limb he rejoined his company, near Atlanta, Georgia, under General Sherman, his regiment being at that time a portion of the Fifteenth Army Corps. He went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea, and afterward participated in a few skirmishes prior to the close of the war, when the surrender of Generals Lee and Johnston virtually put an end to hostilities. He was with his

command at Raleigh, North Carolina, and from that point marched on to Washington, D. C., where he participated in the grand review. There the regiment was placed aboard the cars and sent to Louisville, Kentucky, where, on the 23d of June, 1865, they were mustered out of service. From that point they proceeded to Chicago, and on the 7th of July received their pay and were honorably discharged. Mr. Snyder, who had been at the front for three years, gladly returned to the old home in Whiteside county, where he arrived on the 8th of July, which was the second home-coming from the time of his enlistment. When he was wounded and unable for duty he had been granted a thirty days' furlough, which he spent at home.

On again reaching his native county, Mr. Snyder turned his attention to farming, which he followed continuously until 1886, when he removed to Albany. During the succeeding two years he engaged in fruit farming within the city limits, and in May, 1889, he turned his attention to the livery business, becoming the third liveryman in the city. For seventeen years he successfully conducted his barn and received a liberal patronage. He carried on the business until September, 1906, and then retired, being actively engaged in no business enterprise at the present time. He was previously engaged in breeding and buying and selling Shetland ponies. He also bred one which, on reaching its full growth, only weighed two hundred and seventy-five pounds, and he has owned and sold some of the finest Shetlands ever seen in this part of the country.

On the 9th of October, 1866, Mr. Snyder was married to Miss Mary E. Ewing, who was born in Albany and was a daughter of William and Harriet (McMahon) Ewing, who were among the early settlers of the county, the birth of Mrs. Snyder occurring here October 8, 1849. In early days here Mr. Ewing was a teacher, being closely associated with the pioneer development of the schools in this locality. Prior to the war he was engaged in steamboating on the Mississippi river, being owner and captain of a boat. Mrs. Snyder well remembers the great tornado which caused so much destruction in the town and to the river craft. Her father was also proprietor of one of the first sawmills of the county, and was closely associated with the industrial and business development as well as the intellectual progress of his community. He died in 1891, at the age of seventy-three years, his birth having occurred in Ohio in 1818. He served his county frequently in positions of public trust and confidence, and stood at all times for progress and improvement. His wife survived him for about seven years and passed away in 1898. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ewing were born eight children, all of whom are still living: Mrs. Snyder; Phoebe, the wife of Ison Shaw, of Albany; William, also living in Albany; Fanny, the wife of James Beach, of Albany; Christina, the wife of a Mr. Robinson, of Chicago; Alta, the wife of Charles Tranger; Charles, living in Albany; and Lula, the wife of Charles Stephens, of Belleville, Wisconsin.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snyder were born four children: Fanny, the wife of J. W. Langford, of Mendota, Illinois; Minnie, the wife of G. A. Lott, of Pueblo, Colorado; Mabel, the wife of A. A. Slocum, of Ladd, Illinois; and Myrtle, the wife of W. R. Beardsworth, of Albany.

Mr. Snyder has filled several township offices, serving as constable of Albany for twenty years, also as a member of the village board, and as a member of the board of health. Politically he is a staunch republican, having cast his first presidential vote for General Grant in 1868. He belongs to Albany Lodge, No. 456, I. O. O. F., and to Keystone Lodge, No. 144, K. P. His residence in this county covers sixty-four years. As one travels over the county and sees the many evidences of progressive development in business, intellectual, social and moral lines, it seems hardly possible that it is within the memory of living man when this was largely a wild and undeveloped region, with but few homes over its surface, while Indians were frequently seen and wild game was to be had in abundance. Such were the conditions, however, that existed during the early boyhood of Mr. Snyder, who is living to witness the remarkable transformation of the county as its lands have been claimed and cultivated, its towns founded and its villages transformed into thriving cities. He has been known to many settlers of the county, and his name here has ever been a synonym for honorable dealing in business. His friends are many and his personal worth well entitles him to representation in this volume, as does the fact that he belongs to one of the old pioneer families.

MARCUS LAFAYETTE COE.

A deep feeling of sadness spread throughout Sterling when, on the 6th of March, 1902, it was announced that Marcus Lafayette Coe had passed from this life, but while those who knew him remain, his memory will be cherished, not so much on account of the splendid success which he achieved in business, but because of his life of helpfulness, of good cheer, of broad sympathy and his deep interest in and labors for the benefit of his fellowmen.

Mr. Coe was a native son of Whiteside county, his birth having occurred on a farm in Jordan township, September 21, 1848, a son of Decius O. and Eveline N. (Stevens) Coe, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively. Both the paternal great-grandfather and the grandfather bore the name of Simeon Coe. The latter was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, and with his parents removed to New York, the journey being made with a "spike team"—a yoke of oxen and a horse at the wheel. He was reared to manhood in the Empire state, and in 1835 made his way to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he entered government land in Jordan township, paying for the same the usual price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. He died here at the age of sixty-four years, being survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary (Miles) Coe, who died in 1857. Of their family of thirteen children only one now survives, Helen Ann, who first wedded Moses Snavelly, and after his death became the wife of Thomas Stevens, who is also deceased. Mrs. Stevens has reached the advanced age of eighty years, and has lost her eyesight. She makes her home on Eighth avenue, in Sterling.

Decius O. Coe, the father of our subject, was born in the village of Rush, New York, and in 1835 accompanied his parents on their removal to White-

side county, where he was reared to manhood. He was married here to Miss Eveline N. Stevens, a daughter of Jonathan and Ellen (Bowman) Stevens, the former a native of Stonington, Connecticut, whence he brought his family to Whiteside county in the year 1838, and settled on a farm in Sterling township, where he was engaged in farming throughout the remainder of his life. Of their family of three sons and one daughter, all are now deceased. The father passed away at the age of seventy-seven years. The mother was called to her final rest in 1888. As above stated, Decius O. Coe was reared and married in Whiteside county, subsequent to which time he engaged in farming on his own account, and eventually became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of excellent farming property. After a few years, however, he removed to Sterling, where he lived for a time, and then again resumed the occupation of farming, removing to a place one mile north of the city, this property now being in possession of Martin Brothers. Mr. Coe was a public-spirited man, and for many years served as supervisor of Jordan township, while during his residence in Sterling he served as alderman. He was also a stockholder in the First National Bank of Sterling. Both he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church, Mr. Coe serving as an elder. His wife passed away at the age of sixty-one years, being survived for nine years by Mr. Coe, who died November 17, 1897.

Marcus Lafayette Coe, the immediate subject of this record, was reared on his father's farm in Jordan township, Whiteside county, aiding his father in the work of the farm during the summer seasons, while in the winter months he acquired his education in the Science Ridge District school, this learning being supplemented by study in Mount Morris Seminary and in Cornell (Iowa) College. Returning home after completing his education, he then resumed the pursuits of farm life, which continued to be his occupation throughout the remainder of his life with the exception of one year prior to his demise, when he was engaged in the grocery business in Sterling.

It was on the 26th of August, 1875, that Mr. Coe established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Julia A. Galt, daughter of James A. and Mary (Galt) Galt, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in Montgomery county and the latter in Lancaster county. Only two of their children reached mature years: Mrs. Coe; and Frank Galt, a real-estate dealer of Sterling. The Galt family is of Scotch origin and settled in the Keystone state about the year 1710. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Coe were James and Julianna Maria (Thomas) Galt, the former born in Lancaster county, while he passed away in Montgomery county, that state, when in middle life. He was survived by his wife, who died in 1875, when she had reached the age of seventy-two years. Their son, James A. Galt, the father of Mrs. Coe, was one of the early settlers of Sterling. He was here married to Miss Mary Galt, who accompanied her father's family to Whiteside county in 1844. Her death occurred April 29, 1859, and Mr. Galt was married a second time, this union being with Mrs. Mary (McCartney) Burton, the widow of Albert Burton and a daughter of Judge David and Mary (McNair) McCartney. By this union Mr. Galt had a son and daughter: Harry McCartney Galt; and Edith Thomas Galt, who became the wife of Scott Williams.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Coe began their domestic life on his father's old homestead farm, where they made their home for six years, subsequent to which time they removed to a farm near Emerson, Illinois, where they lived until after the death of his mother, when he returned to his father's homestead, which came into his possession upon the latter's death. He later disposed of this property and purchased a farm in Jordan township, this tract comprising three hundred acres, known as the Wolfersperger farm, which he owned at the time of his death. A year prior to his demise he abandoned farm life and removed to the city of Sterling, where he engaged in the grocery business, in which he was quite successful.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Coe was blessed with six children, five sons and one daughter. Frank is superintendent of the grain department of the Corn Products Company of New York and Chicago. Carl S. is conducting a cigar store and news stand in Sterling. He wedded Harriet V. Howland, by whom he has one son, James Marcus. Evelyn B., the eldest daughter, is the wife of George D. Greenough, a real-estate dealer of Sterling. James Alexander died in January, 1905, at the age of twenty-one years. Dee O. is employed by his brother Carl, while Burton W., the youngest member of the family, is at home.

Mr. Coe gave his political support to the republican party, while his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church, to which his widow also belongs. He was well and favorably known in both Sterling and Whiteside county as an industrious and useful man, whose probity was an unquestioned fact in his career and therefore his death, which occurred on the 6th of March, 1902, was the occasion of deep regret not only to his immediate family but also to his numerous friends and acquaintances.

JOHN F. SHULER.

Among the representatives of farming interests in Montmorency township is numbered John F. Shuler. He was born in this township on the place where he now resides and is a son of John and Eliza (Scheler) Shuler, who were natives of Germany and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father came to America at an early age and, removing to the west, settled in Whiteside county, Illinois, where he purchased eighty acres of land, while later he added a tract of similar size to the first purchase. He became a prosperous farmer and afterward bought the old Woodford farm of one hundred and sixty acres, where he lived for about a year and a half or until his death. His good qualities won him the respect and confidence of his fellowmen, while his well-directed activity was the measure of a gratifying success.

John F. Shuler acquired his education in the common schools and Rock Falls high school, where he pursued the course to within a few months of graduation, when the duties and responsibilities of the home farm made it absolutely necessary that he put aside his text-books and assist his mother in carrying on the home place. His father had died when the son was but



MR. AND MRS. JOHN F. SHULER

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seven years of age and from that time forward he assisted more and more largely as his years and strength increased in the work of his mother's farm. His entire life has been one of unremitting energy and carefully directed diligence.

On the 23d of November, 1904, Mr. Shuler was married to Miss Hannah R. Ramsdell, a daughter of Reuben H. and Barbara (Smith) Ramsdell, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. At the time of their marriage Mr. Shuler located upon the old homestead where he has since lived. The place is known as the Pine Row farm and is pleasantly and conveniently located about three miles south of Sterling, in the midst of the richest farming country of the world. The soil responds readily to the care and cultivation bestowed upon it and the intelligently directed labors of Mr. Shuler have resulted in bringing forth large crops and in placing the farm under high cultivation.

Mrs. Shuler was educated in the Sterling township high school and is a graduate of the class of 1902. She also attended a business college and was employed for a time as bookkeeper. Both Mr. and Mrs. Shuler have many warm friends in this locality, where they have long resided, their good qualities of heart and mind winning for them the favorable regard of those with whom they have been associated. They are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Shuler gives his political allegiance to the republican party. That his life has been a straightforward and honorable one is indicated by the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

VICTOR SCHIFFMACHER.

Victor Schiffmacher, who is now living retired at No. 806 First avenue in Sterling, has long made his home in this section of the state. In fact more than half a century has passed since he arrived in Whiteside county, beginning life here as a farm hand. On the day that Abraham Lincoln was elected to the presidency he took up his abode in Sterling, where he has since made his home. The years have been witness of the honorable record that he has made in the conduct of his business and in all his relations with his fellow-men, and he is now held in such high regard as to render it imperative that mention be made of him in this volume.

Mr. Schiffmacher was born in Scheibenhart, Kanton Langen, Kaudel, Rheinpfalz, Germany, April 10, 1831, his parents being Francis Joseph and Catharina (Roth) Schiffmacher. The father was a civil engineer in his native country and a prominent man of the locality in which he resided. He died about 1867 or 1868 at the age of sixty-five years, while his wife survived him for a considerable period and was more than eighty-eight years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of four children who reached adult age: Victor; Appalonia, deceased; Joseph A., living in Sterling, Illinois; and Thersia, deceased. One other child died in infancy.

Victor Schiffmacher, who was reared in the fatherland, acquired a good common-school education and when fourteen years of age started out in life on his own account by learning the cooper's trade, which he followed in Germany and also after his emigration to the new world. Favorable reports reached him concerning the opportunities of America and after a voyage of forty-two days he landed in New York city, June 18, 1854, determined to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic. He made his way at once into the interior of the country and reached Chicago on the 2d of July. Continuing his journey westward to Whiteside county, he secured employment as a farm hand in Jordan township about six miles from Sterling, and was thus employed during the summer months, while through the winter he worked at his trade. As previously stated he became a resident of Sterling in November, 1860, on the day on which Abraham Lincoln was elected president. Here he worked as a journeyman at the cooper's trade, being so employed until the following spring, when he began business on his own account, so continuing until 1884. He built up an excellent trade as a cooper, sometimes employing as many as forty men. On his retirement from that business he began contracting and put in one of the first sewers in Sterling, it extending from the river to the north side of the railroad tracks. He also put in the water wheels and power for the electric light plant and took other contracts but for a long period has lived retired in the enjoyment of well earned rest.

On the 31st of October, 1861, Mr. Schiffmacher was married to Miss Margaretta Boehm, a daughter of Frederick and Salome Boehm. She died January 13, 1900, at the age of sixty-four years, in the faith of the Catholic church, her membership having been with the Sacred Heart church. On the 24th of September, 1900, Mr. Schiffmacher was married again, his second union being with Mary Ann Burkhard, who was born in Dahn, Kanton Dahn, Rheinpfalz, Germany, November 29, 1848, a daughter of Philip and Margaretha (Schrein-er) Burkhard, who died between eight or nine years after she came to America. Mrs. Schiffmacher landed in Rock Island on New Year's day, 1868, and has since lived in northern Illinois.

Mr. Schiffmacher and his present wife are members of the Sacred Heart Catholic church. He cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, also voted for General Grant and has many times supported the candidates of the republican party but may be said to be independent in politics, holding himself free to cast his ballot without regard to party affiliation or to party rule. He resides at No. 806 First avenue, Sterling, where in 1906 he erected a fine residence, and in the same year built an attractive home at No. 802 First avenue for his nephew, John Lauber.

Mr. Schiffmacher has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to America for here he has found the business opportunities he sought and as the years went by worked his way steadily upward from a humble financial position to one of affluence. His labors were carefully directed and his keen insight and executive force were strong elements in his success. He now has good invested interests from which he annually derives a desirable income. He is a director of the First National Bank of Sterling, being so connected with the institution for twenty-seven years and with the exception of

the president is the oldest director of this bank in years of continuous connection with its board of managers. During this time he has only missed one directors' meeting, this being in January, 1908.

JOHN D. ODLIN.

John D. Odlin, who carries on general farming and stock-raising in Union Grove township, is a native of New Hampshire. He was born in Concord, January 7, 1855. His father, George Odlin, was born August 26, 1823, in Exeter, Rockingham county, New Hampshire, and was a son of James and Martha (Osborn) Odlin, who were likewise natives of that place. George Odlin was a youth of seventeen years when he left home and went to Concord to learn the printer's trade, following the business there for twelve years. In 1844 he purchased an interest in the New Hampshire Statesman, which is still being published at Concord, and edited that journal for seven years, after which he sold out in 1851. However, he continued a resident of Concord and of Manchester until 1856, when he left the Old Granite state and made his way westward to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, for the purpose of engaging in the milling business. He believed that he might have better business opportunities and secure success more quickly in the Mississippi valley, which was being rapidly settled. He continued in milling until 1858, when he removed from Wisconsin to Union Grove township, Whiteside county, Illinois. Here he turned his attention to farming, purchasing an improved tract of land on section 5. His time and energies were given to its further development and management until 1881, when he placed the property in the care of his son and removed to Morrison, where he lived retired in the enjoyment of well earned rest until his death, which occurred October 26, 1888. While he did not seek to figure prominently in any public light, he lived as an upright, useful citizen, an active and honorable business man, and thus left to his family an untarnished name.

On the 9th of September, 1846, George Odlin was united in marriage to Miss Emma P. Dustin, who was born in Francistown, Hillsboro county, New Hampshire, and is a lineal descendant of Hannah Dustin, whose capture by the Indians forms one of the romantic incidents of American history. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Odlin were born three sons and a daughter: James W. and Joseph A., both now deceased; Mrs. Martha Barrell, living in Maine; and John D., of this review.

The last named was only about a year old at the time of his parents' removal to Wisconsin and was but three years of age when brought to Whiteside county. Here he was reared amid conditions and environments suggestive of the frontier and early formed habits of industry and integrity because of the lessons impressed upon his mind by his father. Through his boyhood and youth, when not engaged in the acquirement of an education in the public schools, he worked in the fields and on the 12th of April, 1883, he made arrangements for having a home of his own. It was on that day that he

married Miss Maggie Entwhistle, a daughter of J. W. Entwhistle, who was born December 9, 1855. The young couple began their domestic life on the farm which has since been their home and their union has been blessed with one daughter, Nellie, who was born July 19, 1888. She still remains under the parental roof and has been a successful teacher in the Lincoln school.

Mr. Odlin owns and operates one hundred and twenty acres of rich farming land lying in Union Grove and Ustick townships. The fields are fertile, responding readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon them, so that he annually gathers golden harvests. In addition to tilling the soil he also raises stock and both branches of his business are proving profitable. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, as he prefers to give his undivided attention to his business interests. For half a century he has lived in this county. It seems hardly possible that it is within the memory of living man when Whiteside county was largely an unsettled and unimproved district, but Mr. Odlin can remember when many of the good public highways of the present had not been laid out; when its cities were villages and only comparatively few of its farms were cultivated. He enjoyed the hospitality of the early days and the pleasures which frontier life afforded, and as the years have gone by he has lived to see the many improvements wrought by time and man and has borne his full share in the work of public progress.

ALFRED C. STANLEY.

Among those who constitute the personnel of business interests in Rock Falls is numbered Alfred C. Stanley, well known as a merchant and as superintendent of the wood department for the International Harvester Company. A gentleman of resourceful ability, he has always recognized that the present and not the future holds the opportunity and that advancement depends upon the wise use to which the passing moment is put. Gradually he has worked his way upward until he has become a forceful factor in mercantile and industrial circles in this city.

He was born in Naperville township, Dupage county, Illinois, September 10, 1844, his parents being Urbin D. and Octavia (Crampton) Stanley, both of whom were natives of New England, the former born in Vermont and the latter in Connecticut. The Stanley family is an old one of that section of the country. The ancestry is English, but at an early day representatives of the name came to America. Joel Stanley, the paternal grandfather, was born in Vermont, where he lived until after his marriage and then removed westward to Ohio, settling near Cleveland, where he followed the occupation of farming. He was twice married and died at the age of eighty-five years. The maternal grandfather of our subject was David Crampton, who was a native of Connecticut and of English lineage. He came west with his son at an early day and settled in Dupage county, Illinois, where he died when more than eighty-four years of age. His wife was Mrs. Julia Crampton.

Urbin D. Stanley accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, where he remained until coming to Illinois in 1832. He was a farmer by occupation and following his arrival in this state settled in Dupage county, which at that time was a largely unimproved and undeveloped district. Only six years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and there were still many evidences of Indian occupancy in this part of the state—traces of the red men who for long years had wandered over this section of the country. Mr. Stanley purchased a tract of raw land of one hundred and thirty acres and began the improvement and development of the farm which he continued to operate until his death, at the age of forty-four years, his demise resulting from the kick of a horse. His wife survived him for some time and passed away at the age of sixty-five years. Both were members of the Congregational church. Their family numbered six children, two sons and four daughters, of whom three are now living: Lucy, the wife of David Jenkins, of Hubbell, Nebraska; Alfred C.; and Emma M., the wife of Morris Carnes, of Aurora, Illinois. The three who have passed away were Fidelia, the wife of Albert Brown; Howard, who died in Dupage county; and Julia, who was the wife of Dr. Thomas Eckles.

Alfred C. Stanley was reared in Dupage county, Illinois, upon his father's farm, early becoming acquainted with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the district schools and the Naperville Seminary in the acquirement of his education, and following the early death of his father, the management and development of the home farm devolved upon him between the ages of thirteen and twenty-three years. At length, however, he resolved to follow some other pursuit than that of agriculture and leaving the farm he entered the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Aurora, continuing with that company for four years. For a time he was in the car department and during the last year and a half was in the passenger coach department. In 1873 he came to Rock Falls, where he followed the carpenter's trade for a year, on the expiration of which period he secured employment in a coffin factory. His capability was so noteworthy that at the end of ten months he was given charge of the shop and made a new set of patterns for the shop. For five years he was connected with the business as a salaried representative, after which he continued in the manufacture of coffins under contract for four years. On the expiration of that period, with the capital acquired through his industry and careful expenditure, he established a grocery store, which he conducted for twenty-one consecutive years, his long continuance with the trade indicating his success and growing patronage. Later his sons, Walter and Earl, took charge of the business, which they conducted until the fall of 1907, when Walter Stanley retired and A. C. Stanley again became active in its management in association with his son Earl. For the past year he has also been foreman of the wood department for the International Harvester Company, which employs in all of its departments at this place about two hundred and fifty men.

On the 27th of September, 1866, Mr. Stanley was married to Miss Hattie Terry, a daughter of Samuel Terry, and unto them was born a son, Harry, who was an engineer on the Illinois Central Railroad, being advanced to that

position when but twenty-two years of age. At the age of twenty-four he was killed in a railroad wreck, leaving a wife, who bore the maiden name of Kate Brennan, and one son, Alfred. Mrs. Hattie Stanley died in 1871 and Mr. Stanley afterward wedded Miss Florence Lilly, a daughter of Edward and Lois (Townsend) Lilly. They have four children: Walter, Earl, Lois and Howard. The first named, who married Laura Wooley, is now engaged in merchandising in Seattle, Washington. Earl wedded Myrtle Wall and is his father's partner in business. Lois and Howard are still at home.

Mrs. Stanley is connected with the Christian Science church. Mr. Stanley belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T.; and Medinah Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine at Chicago. He is also connected with the Odd Fellows as a member of Advance Lodge, No. 590, I. O. O. F., and politically he is a republican. In 1888 he built a beautiful home at No. 301 East Third street, where he and his family reside. He has also erected his store building and the Whitney Hotel and has put up other buildings in Rock Falls which have contributed in substantial measure to its material development. In addition to his other interests, he is a stockholder and director in the First National Bank of this city and in community affairs he has done effective work as the champion of all interests and measures calculated to promote public progress, municipal virtue and the interests of the community at large. He was village trustee for one term, was president of the school board for two terms, and that he proved a most capable supervisor is indicated by the fact that he filled that office for ten years. In a review of his life record it will be found that his methods have ever been such as will bear the closest scrutiny, that he has won advancement through following out well defined plans, and that in the execution of his purpose he has shown strong determination, yielding at no point where honorable, persistent effort could win success.

JAMES BRODERICK.

Nature seems to have intended that the evening of life shall be a period of rest, and he who carefully and intelligently directs his labors through the years of early manhood and mature life and avoids reckless expenditure can acquire a competence that will provide for the wants of old age without recourse to further labor. Mr. Broderick was for a long period connected with the farming interests of Whiteside county but he is now enjoying a well merited rest at his home in Sterling, where he has lived since 1901.

He was born in the parish of Turanena, in County Waterford, Ireland, in 1831, his parents being Thomas and Mary (Whalen) Broderick, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father conducted an extensive blacksmithing business and also owned a farm in Ireland but wishing to do still better by his family came to America in 1850, attracted by the larger opportunities for business activity and success. With his wife and children he sailed for the new world and spent one summer in the state of New York, but

in the fall of that year made his way westward to the Mississippi valley, settling near Maysville, Kentucky, where he lived retired, while his sons were in the railroad service there. In the spring of 1855 he came with his family to Illinois, locating in Ogle county, where for three years he made his home near Polo. He next came to Whiteside county, settling in Clyde township, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land. Here his attention was given to the supervision of his farming interests, which were carefully managed and brought him a very gratifying financial return. He died when almost ninety years of age. His wife, who was much younger, survived him for about fifteen years and was eighty years of age at the time of her demise. Their family numbered eight children, three sons and five daughters: Johanna, the wife of Morris Herbert, of Polo, Illinois; Mary, the wife of Thomas Sheehan, of Chicago; Ellen, the widow of William Mooney, of Sterling; John, a retired farmer living in Morrison, this state; James Broderick, of this review; and Margaret, Bridget and Patrick, who are now deceased.

Little is known concerning the ancestral history of the family. The paternal grandfather died in Ireland but beyond that there is no record concerning the Brodericks. The maternal grandfather was James Whalen, a wealthy farmer of Ireland, who died there at an old age. He was twice married and the only child of the first union was Mrs. Mary (Whalen) Broderick.

James Broderick was reared as a farmer boy and throughout his business career followed agricultural pursuits. He began his education in the schools of Ireland and later in the school of experience learned many valuable and practical lessons. He was a young man when he went to Ogle county and with his father he remained until the latter's death, after which the estate was divided, the three sons each inheriting eighty acres of land in Clyde township. James Broderick located upon the farm which thus came into his possession and as his financial resources increased he added to it eighty acres of prairie land and twenty acres of timber, so that he had an excellent farm of one hundred and eighty acres. To its further development and improvement he devoted his energies and brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, annually gathering rich harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestowed upon them. He continued to successfully carry on farming until the spring of 1901, when he sold the old homestead and removed to Sterling, where he has since lived retired, his home being at No. 107 Fifth avenue.

In 1861 Mr. Broderick was united in marriage to Miss Ann Meehan, who was born in Oneida county, New York, a daughter of John Meehan. They became the parents of five children: Thomas, who died at the age of four years; Mary, the wife of Edward Junker, a resident of Chicago, by whom she has four children, George, Ruth, and Myrtle and Ivy, twins; James, who is in the real-estate business in Sterling and wedded Margaret Flynn, by whom he has five living children, Leo, Frank, Herbert, Leonard and Pearl; Thomas, who is also engaged in the real-estate business in Sterling; and John, who resides at Fessenden, North Dakota, where he conducts a hotel and also owns land. He married Theresa Junker. In August, 1872, Mr. Broderick was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who was a member of the Catholic church, and

two years later he married Miss Catherine McManus. There is one child by this marriage, Ella, who is now acting as her father's housekeeper, for the mother died in July, 1882, at the age of fifty-six years, in the faith of the Catholic church, of which Mr. Broderick is also a member.

His political support is given to the democracy. He is an honored and highly respected citizen, always industrious, and by good management and hard work he became the owner of a valuable property and won a gratifying competence for old age. He has lived an honest and upright life and well deserves mention in this volume.

ANTHONY W. BASTIAN.

Anthony W. Bastian, sole proprietor of the Fulton Journal, a semi-weekly independent paper, was born in Geauga county, Ohio, June 26, 1846. His parents were Van S. and Ann E. Bastian, with whom he removed to Rochester, New York, in 1850. He acquired his primary education in the schools of that city, passing through consecutive grades until 1861, when he became a resident of Prophetstown, Whiteside county, Illinois. He afterward engaged in teaching school here and at a later day removed to Bureau county, Illinois. Being ambitious to acquire a more thorough and comprehensive education, he made his plans to this end. His financial circumstances did not justify the necessary expense until he personally had earned the money with which to pay his way through college. He did this by teaching school and working at farm labor and when he had secured a sufficient sum of money he matriculated in Dover College, where he remained for three terms, and also spent two terms as a student in Wheaton College. Thus constantly broadening his knowledge, he was at length enabled to successfully pass the required examination for a state certificate. It was not until after his marriage, however, that he attended Wheaton College. For some time he was closely associated with educational interests in this section of the state. He taught the Yorktown school and also organized and graded the Tampico school and served as principal for seven years.

In 1881 Mr. Bastian came to Fulton and purchased a half interest in the Journal office, of which he is now sole proprietor. He has since given his attention to the conduct of the paper and the history of the Journal under his direction indicates his capable management and his ability in this field of activity. Strict business principles are followed in carrying on the paper. In its mechanical construction it is most attractive, while its contents make it a most readable sheet.

Mr. Bastian was married in Yorktown, Illinois, March 4, 1872, to Miss Eva A. Patterson, a daughter of Orin and Lucy M. (Chubbuck) Patterson. Mrs. Bastian was born in Bureau county, Illinois, and by her marriage became the mother of one son, Sidney A., who was born December 15, 1875, and died in 1893.

Mr. Bastian has been prominent and influential in the public life of Fulton and served for two terms as mayor and for two terms as city clerk.



A. W. BASTIAN

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He was also chairman of the democratic county committee for two terms and for one term a member of the democratic state central committee. He also served as a member of the board of directors of the Modern Woodmen of America and was editor of the official organ of the society for two years. He is now today busily engaged in editing and publishing a paper which had its first issue on the 25th of February, 1854, and which for more than a half century has been a factor in molding public opinion in Fulton and Whiteside county. He is a man of strong intellectual force and keen discernment and his editorials usually present a clear, unbiased view of any vital situation and point out the possibilities for accomplishment in connection therewith.

WILLIAM PENN PALMER.

William Penn Palmer is one of Sterling's well known citizens, serving as justice of the peace and city engineer, at the same time conducting a good insurance business with a desirable and growing clientage. He was born near Chambersburg, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, October 9, 1846. His paternal grandfather, Michael Palmer, also a native of the Keystone state, was a farmer by occupation. Both he and his wife lived to old age and reared a family of three sons and several daughters, including Jonas Palmer, who was born in Pennsylvania and in early life became a clerk in a dry-goods store at Erie, that state. He afterward took charge of one of his father's farms near Chambersburg and his remaining days were spent in that locality, where he died in 1892, when more than seventy years of age. He married Catherine Flack, who died in 1886 at the age of seventy years. They were members of the English branch of the German Reformed church. Mrs. Palmer was a daughter of Christian Flack, who was born near Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and was a tanner by trade. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Palmer were born ten children, six sons and four daughters: Margaret, the widow of Augustus Keefer, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; William Penn, of this review; Charles F., of Chambersburg; Emma, the wife of Charles Dietrick, of St. Thomas, Pennsylvania; Katie, the wife of John Mish, living near Mercersburg, Pennsylvania; Franklin, of Mansfield, Ohio; David D., of Modesta, California; George and Harry, both deceased; and one who died in infancy.

William Penn Palmer spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farm lads upon the farm in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and attended the district schools, while later he continued his studies in Iron City College at Pittsburg, from which he was graduated. Subsequently he went to Chambersburg, where he engaged in the grain and coal business under the firm style of Keefer, Palmer & Company for several years. In 1877 he came to Sterling and had charge of the lumber and grain business for the firm of Langford & Hall until he embarked in business on his own account in the same line. He was thus connected with the trade interests of the city for a number of years. Subsequently he was chosen justice of the peace and was also employed by the city for a number of years as city engineer and superintendent of

streets. His public service has been characterized by an unfaltering devotion to the general good and has won for him the unqualified endorsement and approval of those who are cognizant of the work he has done in public office. At the present writing, in 1908, he is also serving as township and as city assessor, which office he has filled for the past five years. He served for several terms as a member of the city council, representing what was then the fourth ward. He has also been a member of the Wallace school board for a number of years and his duties have ever been discharged with a singleness of purpose that has regarded only the best interests of the public at large.

Mr. Palmer was married to Miss Margaret Rutt, a daughter of Michael and Mary (Baer) Rutt, who were natives of Pennsylvania and came with the Palmers to Sterling in 1877. They had one son and one daughter, John and Margaret. Both parents are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Palmer have been born two daughters and a son. Bertie is the wife of E. V. Crumb, of Rockford, Illinois, and they have three children, Helen, Burritt and William Palmer Crumb. Minnie is the wife of Ralph Copeland, of Rockford, Illinois. John G. is a civil engineer in the employ of the United States government and lives at Washington, D. C. He married Bertie Wilkins, of Tiskilwa, Illinois, and they have two children, Catharine and William Wilkins.

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer were originally members of the German Reformed church but as there was no organization of that denomination in Sterling they placed their membership in the Presbyterian church here. They reside at No. 308 Avenue G, where Mr. Palmer erected a good residence about 1894. His political allegiance is given unfalteringly to the republican party, while fraternally he is connected with Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; and Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T. For more than thirty years he has resided in Sterling and is well known here as a man of many friends—a fact indicative of the good qualities he has displayed in public and private life.

CONRAD HARMS.

Conrad Harms dates his residence in Whiteside county from 1866. Arriving here in July, of that year, he took up his abode on section 3, Hopkins township, and in the intervening years has been connected with agricultural interests in the county. He was born in Jever, Germany, October 22, 1838. His father, J. C. Harms, a native of Oldenburg, Germany, was born in 1804 and reached the age of seventy-four years, passing away in 1878, his remains being interred in the cemetery of the Lutheran church of Oldenburg. Throughout his entire business career he followed tailoring in the town of Jever. In 1836 he was married to Miss Catherine Miller and unto them were born six children: Conrad, of this review; Carl, who died in 1876; Carl, the second of the name, who died in 1878; Anna, Minnie, who died in 1868; and Fredericka, who is residing in Sterling and is the wife of Louis Sunderman, identified with the business interests of the city. The mother of this family

was born in 1809 and died in 1849, her grave also being made in the Lutheran church cemetery of Oldenburg.

Conrad Harms, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the common schools but his opportunities in that direction were somewhat limited, for at a very early age he went to work on a farm. He was first employed by Henry Hayungs, near Jever, Germany, and continued in that line of activity until thirty-four years of age. His skill and efficiency gradually increasing, his wages were also enlarged proportionately in accordance with the scale of wages paid in his native country, but feeling that he would have better opportunities in the new world, he resolved to come to America and seek his fortune in the United States. Accordingly, he made the voyage across the Atlantic in 1866 and, as stated, arrived in Whiteside county in July of that year. He has since been identified with the agricultural interests of this portion of the state and now makes his home on section 8, Sterling township, where he owns one of the best improved farms of Whiteside county, for which he paid eighty-five dollars per acre seven years ago. This has since increased in value owing to the natural advance in prices and also owing to the improvements which he has made upon it.

In 1875 Mr. Harms was married to Miss Mary Tiarks, of Hooksiel, Germany, a daughter of Fred and Christine (Remners) Tiarks. Her mother was born in Jever, Germany, in 1809 and departed this life in 1887. The father was born about 1805 in Jever and passed away in 1885. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Harms have been born seven children: Mary Catherine is the wife of George Onken, a resident of Whiteside county. Jacob Fred married Alice Kophammer, a native of Whiteside county. Charlie wedded Margaret Boesen, who is living in this county. Anna is the wife of Ed. Mieners, also living in Whiteside county. Henry and Will are at home. They also lost one child, Charlie Conrad, who died in 1887.

Mr. Harms possesses many of the sterling characteristics of the German race. He possesses the energy and determination which lead to success and also the resolute spirit which promises effective effort in the business world. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the United States, for here he has found the opportunities which he desired and not only gained a comfortable competency but has also won the respect and good will of a large majority of those with whom he has been brought in contact. He has found here a pleasant home and many friends and is thoroughly content with his adopted country.

EDWARD O. HILLS.

Edward O. Hills is a member of the firm conducting an extensive hot-house business at Fulton and their enterprise is the leading one of this character in the place. He has wrought out his success along well defined lines of labor, his energy and determination being the salient features in his business career. His birth occurred in Sterling, Whiteside county, Illinois, August

29, 1867, his parents being Josiah and Lavina (Hill) Hills, who came to Whiteside county at an early day, probably about 1860. They settled in Sterling and the father, who was a tanner by trade, established one of the first, if not the first, tanneries of Sterling, a business which he conducted successfully for a long period. He not only did the tanning but converted the leather into a finished product, for which he found a ready sale on the market. He was located at Sparta, Illinois, from 1871 until 1877, when he turned to Sterling, where he continued business in the same line in which he had formerly been engaged. This he followed until about 1881, or 1882, when he retired from that field of activity. He afterward established a dairy business, which he conducted with success until 1895. He then retired from all active work and removed to Tallapoosa, Georgia, where he resided until 1899. In that year he again came to Illinois and established his home in Morrison, where he is now residing in his eightieth year, enjoying remarkable health for one of his age, for he is a splendidly preserved man. On the 25th of January, 1908, for the first time in thirty years he was obliged to call in the services of a physician. His wife died September 17, 1906, at the age of seventy-four years. They were the parents of five children, four of whom reached adult age; Ella; Cora, the wife of Clarence B. Pierce, of Ustick township, this county; E. O. and Fred A., who is a member of the firm of Hills Brothers & Kirman.

Edward O. Hills pursued his education in the schools of Sterling and at the age of twenty-two years secured a position in the office of the city engineer and while thus engaged gained a comprehensive knowledge of civil engineering. He has since followed that business in connection with other enterprises and in 1902 was elected county surveyor, to which office he was re-elected in 1904. In this position his knowledge of civil engineering and surveying was called into constant use and that his service was capable and effective is indicated by the fact that he was chosen for a second term. Previous to his election to the office which he now holds he was during 1897 and 1898 employed by the government, having charge of a crew of men in making geological surveys through the states of Utah and Wyoming. In 1900 he was employed as inspector by the government of the Hennepin feeder to the main canal running through this county. About 1897 he was appointed city engineer of Morrison, a position which he filled until 1908, when his other interests became of so much importance that he felt that he could no longer afford to give the necessary time to his official duties of civil engineer and withdrew from the office.

In 1905 Mr. Hills in company with L. G. MacKinzie established a business for the production of hothouse plants and vegetables. Mr. MacKinzie afterward sold his interest to Fred A. Hills and our subject and in 1907 John E. Kirman, a brother-in-law, purchased an interest in the business which now conducted under the firm style of Hills Brothers & Kirman. This firm makes a specialty of growing hothouse cucumbers and tomatoes. Their business has reached extensive proportions and is now one of the profitable enterprises of Fulton.

Mr. Hills was married in 1896 to Miss Alice Kirman, of Morrison, a daughter of Mrs. Mary Kirman, one of the early settlers of this county, and a

sister of John E. Kirman. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hills hold membership in the Universalist church. Politically he is a republican and fraternally is connected with Grove Lodge, No. 50, I. O. O. F. He has led a very busy and useful life, his varied interests making constant demand upon his time and attention and throughout his career he has made that steady progress which is the outcome of close application, determination and ability.

GEORGE M. ADAIR.

George M. Adair, following the occupation of farming in Coloma township, his time and energies being devoted to the improvement of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres, was born in Monroe, Green county, Wisconsin, November 10, 1855. His parents were George and Martha (Simpkins) Adair, both of whom were natives of Canada, whence they removed to Wisconsin about 1853. The father was a blacksmith by trade. He lived at home until sixteen years of age and then served a two years' apprenticeship at blacksmithing, after which he followed the trade as a journeyman for six years. In the meantime he carefully saved his earnings, so that on the expiration of that period he was enabled to embark in business on his own account, opening a shop in Canada. When two years had passed he removed to Wisconsin, where he established himself in his trade, remaining there until 1860. He afterward went to Michigan, where he continued until the fall of 1871, when he returned to Wisconsin and acquired the same business he had left there. Later he again sold out and removed to Moline, Illinois, where he engaged in blacksmithing for two years. In 1879 he came to Rock Falls, where he opened a smithy and as the result of his efficient workmanship in his chosen occupation soon gained a liberal and growing patronage that brought to him a comfortable competence. Here he prospered and remained until his death, which occurred in 1907. He was a son of John and Anna (Teezel) Adair, who were natives of New Jersey. Further than this nothing is known concerning the ancestral history of the family.

George M. Adair accompanied his parents on their various removals during the days of his boyhood and youth and acquired a public-school education. When twenty-one years of age he started out upon an independent business career, working for the Keystone Manufacturing Company at Rock Falls. That he was capable, energetic and faithful is plainly indicated by the fact that his connection with that company covered the period from 1876 until 1905. He worked his way upward from one position to another, each bringing added responsibilities, and for some time served as foreman. After severing his connection with the Keystone Company in 1905 he invested his savings in the farm which he now occupies, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land, all now in fine condition. His fields are well cultivated, bringing forth productive crops. In the midst of the farm stands a beautiful country residence with pleasant surroundings and there are also commodious barns and outbuildings giving ample shelter for grain and

stock. Everything about the place indicates his enterprising spirit and his labors have brought to him a satisfactory reward since taking up the work of the fields. He is justly accounted one of the representative agriculturists of the community and his farm yearly returns to him rich crops.

On the 14th of September, 1886, Mr. Adair was married to Miss Hattie Adkins, a daughter of Buford D. and Margaret F. (Bivens) Adkins, who were natives of Kentucky, born near Louisville. The father went to Missouri at any early day, settling in Platte county. Two children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Adair, Willie and Stanley. The family are well known in Rock Falls and in Coloma township, where they have an extensive circle of warm friends.

JACOB WETZELL, JR.

Jacob Wetzell, Jr., is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres situated on section 9, Genesee township. It is a rich and productive tract of land, splendidly improved with every modern convenience and accessory known to the model farm of the twentieth century. It was in Genesee township that Jacob Wetzell first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 15th of May, 1856, his parents being Jacob and Susan (Bidler) Wetzell. The father was a native of Stark county, Ohio, born September 12, 1814, while the mother's birth occurred in Pennsylvania on the 27th of September, 1815. They arrived in Illinois in 1855 and soon afterward the father invested in land in Whiteside county, where he continued to make his home until his demise. For almost a half century he lived within its borders and witnessed its transformation as it took on all of the evidences of a modern and progressive civilization, becoming one of the rich agricultural districts of the state, while in its midst sprang up important industrial and commercial concerns that constitute the elements of a city's growth and prosperity. He died January 5, 1902, and his wife passed away later in the same year. They were the parents of ten children, namely: Henry, of Whiteside county; Sarah, the wife of N. H. Buntley, of Carroll county, Illinois; Elizabeth, who became the wife of J. B. Overholser and resides in Sterling; Samuel, also of Sterling; Mary, the wife of B. F. Buntley, of Genesee township; Catherine, the wife of William Peugh; Frank, deceased; Jacob, of this review; and Caroline and an infant, who are likewise deceased.

In early boyhood Jacob Wetzell was sent as a pupil to the public schools and thereby acquired his education. During the periods of vacation he was trained in the work of the home farm and lessons concerning the value of industry, enterprise and integrity were early impressed on his mind. He remained on the old home farm until thirty-four years of age, when he was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Julia Kennedy, who was born in Whiteside county, November 26, 1859, a daughter of William and Emeline (Bailey) Kennedy. The father was born in Washington county, New York, October 8, 1828, while the mother's birth occurred in the Empire state

on the 14th of August, 1840. They were the parents of eight children: Mary, deceased; Mrs. Wetzell; Harold, of Clyde township; Jefferson, who resides in Missouri; Harvey, of Whiteside county; Lydia, the wife of J. M. Morrison, of Texas; Cora, at home; and one who died in infancy. The mother has now passed away but the father still survives. He lost his wife in 1888.

Following his marriage Mr. Wetzell purchased one hundred and seventy-two acres of land on section 9, Genesee township, and it has since been his home. It now constitutes one of the finest farms of the county and in its midst stands a palatial and beautiful country residence, built in modern style of architecture and containing fourteen rooms. It is supplied with all the latest conveniences and equipments and every necessary outbuilding for the shelter of grain and stock is also found upon the place. These have been built with a view to convenience and the farm is splendidly equipped. In addition to tilling the soil in the production of crops best adapted to climatic conditions here, Mr. Wetzell also makes a specialty of raising Poland China hogs.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wetzell have been born five children: Harold, now deceased; Frank and Leslie, in school; Glynn and Lyle, at home. The parents are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Wetzell votes with the republican party and for several years has served as school director, the cause of public education finding in him a warm champion. Otherwise he has never held nor desired public office, for he feels that his farming interests make full claim upon his time and energies. That he has prospered as the years have passed is indicated in the appearance of his beautiful home and well kept farm, while throughout the county it is a well known fact that his name is an honored one on commercial paper.

JOHN AGGEN.

John Aggen, extensively engaged in raising vegetables in Fulton, was born in Holland on the 3d of March, 1858, a son of John and Ledena (Wiersema) Aggen, who died in that country. In 1878 John Aggen crossed the Atlantic to the United States, locating in Chicago, where he was employed as a farm hand for three years. On the expiration of that period, in association with his brothers, he engaged in gardening on leased land, following that line of activity for twenty-two years in and near the western metropolis. Arriving in Fulton, Whiteside county, in 1903, he here established the first hothouse devoted to the production of lettuce, onions and other vegetables in this part of the state. His present plant was erected in 1906 and is one of the most extensive in the entire county, Mr. Aggen having spent some twenty-five hundred dollars in perfecting the establishment, which cannot be excelled in the beauty of its surroundings. It is located in one of the most desirable spots in the town of Fulton, being near the business center and not far from Lyons and Clinton, Iowa. As previously stated, Mr. Aggen arrived in this country in 1878, handicapped by a lack of funds and unfamiliarity with the English language. In spite of these serious disadvantages he resolutely set to work,

eventually winning that measure of success which is always the reward of unremitting industry and indefatigable energy, supplemented by sound judgment and keen discrimination in business affairs.

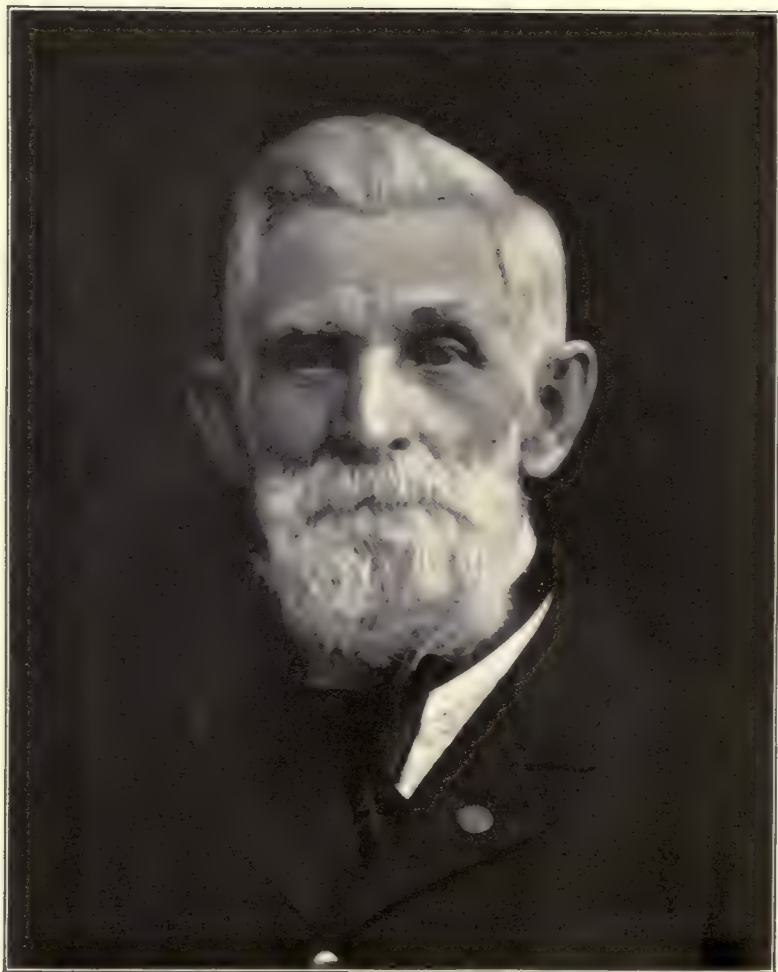
Mr. Aggen has been married twice. He was first wedded in Chicago, in 1886, to Miss Grace Dyhuis, of that city, a daughter of Peter Dyhuis. She passed away in 1891, leaving one son, John, and in 1892 our subject was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Mary Wilkins, nee Muldimaker, a native of Holland. Her parents, also natives of that country, emigrated to America in 1882, locating in Fulton, where the father's death occurred in 1891; while his wife survived him until May, 1903. Mrs. Aggen has three living children by her first husband: Claus; Josie, the wife of Jacob Wiersema; and Cornelius. By her present marriage she has two children, Tessie and Render.

Mr. Aggen is independent in politics, and, though he generally votes the republican ticket, does not consider himself bound by party ties, always casting his ballot for the candidate whom he believes best qualified for office. Both he and his wife are members of the Dutch Reformed Church of America and are highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and sterling traits of heart and mind. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought,—which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man,—and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward, his name being now enrolled among the prosperous and enterprising residents of Whiteside county.

WILLIAM F. GOULD.

Through the years of an active business career William F. Gould followed farming and carpentering, but is now living retired in Sterling, his prosperity in former years supplying him with the necessities and comforts and some of the luxuries of life. He has long since passed the Psalmist's span of three score years and ten, his birth having occurred in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1829. In both the paternal and maternal lines he represents old families of the Empire state. His two grandfathers, William Gould and Gideon De Groff, were natives of New York, were farmers by occupation and lived to old age. Tobias Gould, father of our subject, was born in Saratoga county, New York, was reared to agricultural pursuits and made farming his life work. Removing to Pennsylvania, he settled in Bradford county, where he conducted a farm and also filled the office of county sheriff for a time. In early manhood he married Diana De Groff, likewise a native of Saratoga county, New York. His death occurred in 1831 and his widow afterward married Samuel Scott. By her first marriage she had three sons and a daughter, of whom only William F. Gould is now living. By her second husband she had two daughters, one of whom has passed away, while Mary Jane Scott is now the widow of Charles Ayers and resides in Sheldon, Iowa.

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WILLIAM F. GOULD



MRS. WILLIAM F. GOULD

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William F. Gould was only about eighteen months old when his father died. He lived with his mother to the age of fourteen years and acquired a common-school education. He then traveled westward by steamer to Wisconsin, settling in what was then Racine county, but is now Kenosha county. This was in 1844. A few years later he returned to the Empire state, taking up his abode in the town of Cato, Cayuga county, where he learned and followed the trade of a carpenter and joiner, being identified with building operations in the east for a number of years. In 1858 he came to Illinois, settling in Whiteside county, and for a time worked at his trade, after which he purchased a farm of forty-eight acres in Jordan township, on which a small frame house had been erected by the first settler, he being the second to locate there. Subsequently he bought forty acres more from the Illinois Central Railroad and still later another forty-acre tract from Joseph Sowles. He improved all this, bringing the land under a high state of cultivation, his fields producing rich crops of cereals best adapted to soil and climate. Upon that place he made his home until 1882, when he rented his farm and took up his abode in Sterling, where he has since made his home. He followed his trade until about 1904, since which time he has lived retired. He was thus for twenty-two years identified with building operations in Sterling, and many substantial structures of the city are an indication of his handiwork and skill. He now owns a good home at No. 208 East Seventh street, two other residences and still other town property.

The lady who now bears his name and whom he wedded on the 14th of April, 1853, was in her maidenhood Miss Mary A. Davis, a daughter of Esek and Charlotte (Ward) Davis. The former was a son of Ichabod Davis, who removed from Argyle to New Haven, New York, and there died at an advanced age, while his wife, Peace Davis, passed away in middle life. They were the parents of ten children. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Gould were Adam and Sarah Ward. The former was one of the patriots of the American army in the Revolutionary war and lived in Saratoga, New York. Esek Davis was a native of Argyle and his wife of Saratoga county, New York. They removed to New Haven, Oswego county, that state, where Mrs. Gould was born April 2, 1830. There the parents remained for some time and then went to Cayuga county, where her father died at the venerable age of ninety-seven years, while his wife reached the age of eighty-one years. They were the parents of nine children, four daughters and five sons, but only three are now living: Mrs. Mary A. Gould; Martin L., of Cayuga county, New York; and Elizabeth E, the widow of John Laird and now a resident of Cayuga county, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Gould have but two children. The elder, Charles W. Gould, who is conducting a typewriter exchange in Seattle, Washington, married Etta Depell, now deceased, and to them were born three children, Mabel, Edna and William J. After losing his first wife Charles W. Gould wedded Nettie Dudley. Frank E. Gould is a traveling salesman living in Chicago and married Margaret Tighe, by whom he has one child, Frank E.

Mr. and Mrs. Gould are members of the Baptist church and are much esteemed as people of genuine worth. He is a veteran of the Civil war, hav-

ing enlisted on the 14th of March, 1865, as a member of Company E, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of hostilities. He was on detailed duty most of the time and after the war returned to his farm. He is now a member of William Robinson Post, G. A. R., of Sterling. He has been one of the world's workers and his diligence and persistency of purpose constitute the basis upon which he has builded the success that now enables him to live retired.

JOHN G. LOOS.

John G. Loos, who since 1892 has been engaged in the plumbing and steam-fitting business in Sterling, his place of business being at No. 122 West Third street, is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to this state. He was born in Wurtemberg, on the 30th of June, 1849, a son of Martin and Christina (Glasser) Loos, both of whom were natives of the fatherland. The father was a cooper by trade and followed that business at Unter-Riexingen, which was the place of his birth, and there he spent his entire life, passing away in 1888, at the age of seventy-seven years. The wife and mother was born in 1814 and died in 1900, when she was more than eighty-six years of age. Both the parents were members of the Lutheran church.

John G. Loos of this review is one of a family of six children and was reared in the fatherland to the age of nineteen years. He there acquired a good common-school education, after which he learned the cooper's trade, which he followed until 1880. In 1868, having heard favorable reports concerning the opportunities and advantages to be enjoyed in the new world, he crossed the Atlantic, and upon reaching American shores at once made his way to Belvidere, Illinois, where he remained for fifteen months. He then went to Chicago, spending his time there until the spring of 1872, subsequent to which time he removed to Sterling, arriving here in June of that year. He first engaged in the cooperage business in this city, following that occupation until 1880, after which he followed the carpenter's trade for ten years. In 1892 he embarked in the plumbing and steam-fitting business, in which he has built up a good trade, so that he is today numbered among the prominent and progressive business men of Sterling. He has a well equipped establishment at No. 122 West Third street. His success is well merited, for he ever follows the most honorable methods in his business relations, being prompt and faithful to the terms of a contract, so that he has won the confidence and good will of all with whom he has had business dealings.

Mr. Loos was married on the 4th of September, 1870, to Miss Minnie Kruse, a daughter of Charles and Fred Kruse, who were natives of Prussia and emigrated to America in 1865, at which time they settled in Chicago, Illinois. Of their family of six children, three of the number still survive. Mr. Kruse passed away in Chicago, at the age of sixty-eight years, having been preceded by his wife, who died several years prior to his demise.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Loos has been blessed with ten children, seven sons and three daughters: John A., Carl C., Emma C., Fred O., Albert,

Henry, Minnie, William, Anna, and Walter. John A., like his father, is engaged in the plumbing business. He wedded Dora Deusch, of Sterling, by whom he has three sons, Harry, Arthur and Lester. Carl C., also engaged in the plumbing business, wedded Christina Brandlin, by whom he has a son, Paul. Emma C. is the wife of Samuel Landis and has one daughter, Ruth. Fred O., a plumber, married Christina Esslinger. Minnie is the wife of L. C. Good, of Dixon, Illinois, by whom she has a daughter, Bernice. The other members of the family, Albert, Henry, William, Anna and Walter, are still under the parental roof.

The parents are members of St. John's Lutheran church, while Mr. Loos is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Lodge No. 174, at Sterling. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he served for one term as a member of the city council. In 1873 he erected a nice home at No. 805 West Seventh street, which he has occupied to the present time. His enterprising and progressive spirit have made him a typical American in every sense of the word. By close application and good business judgment he has raised himself to the position which he now holds in the business world and he commands the high regard of all with whom he is brought in contact, whether in a business or social relation.

OLIVER S. OAKLEY.

Oliver S. Oakley, whose span of life covered three score years and ten, was born near Stockholm, Sweden, February 7, 1836, and died October 13, 1906. His parents were Swan and Christiana (Jensen) Oakley, who lived and died in Sweden. There the son Oliver was reared to the age of eighteen years, when he crossed the Atlantic to the new world and came to Whiteside county with a sister, Mrs. Mary B. Oakleaf. The tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad were then being laid and he was employed as water boy upon the road between Round Grove and Morrison. Desiring to secure a more advanced education than had been afforded in his native country and wishing to familiarize himself with the English language, he attended school at Garden Plain and also spent some time as a student in the college at Fulton. During the greater part of his life he followed farming and entered into active connection with agricultural interests as a farm hand, being thus employed until 1862. He then began to cultivate a rented farm and in 1869 went to Iowa, where he remained for six years, making his home in Cedar county. There he purchased and cultivated a good farm of three hundred and twenty acres near Tipton until the spring of 1875, when he sold his property there and returned to Whiteside county, here purchasing an extensive tract of rich land.

On the 3d of January, 1865, Mr. Oakley was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Maxwell, who was born in Scotland in 1844 and came to Whiteside county with an uncle, James Cassel, in 1856, locating in Morrison. He owned a farm where the Center schoolhouse now stands and his niece, Mrs. Oakley,

attended the Center school and also pursued her studies in Morrison. Mr. Judd was her first teacher and the schools of that period were somewhat primitive, but the pupils were thoroughly grounded in the elementary branches of English learning. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Oakley were born five children: Alice M., the wife of W. G. Garter, of Cohasset, California, by whom she has two sons and three daughters; Cora A., who has engaged in teaching for several years and makes her home with her mother; Ida, who conducts a large dress-making establishment in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Lottie, who is bookkeeper for the Morrison Produce Company; and Fred S., who is operating the home farm.

On his return to Whiteside county in 1875 Mr. Oakley purchased the James Snyder farm, which has since been the family residence. With characteristic energy he began its further development and improvement and in 1901-2 erected a beautiful residence, which stands in the midst of well kept fields that annually bring forth rich harvests. The other equipments of the farm are also modern and the latest improved machinery is used in the fields. Mr. Oakley was always progressive as well as practical in his work and his labors brought to him a gratifying measure of success, making him one of the representative farmers of the county. He continued actively in his work until his life's labors were ended in death, October 13, 1906. His loss was deeply regretted by many friends, for he was widely and favorably known here. He voted with the republican party but never accepted office. He served for a number of years as a member of the school board and was thus officially connected with the schools at the time of his demise. When a young man he became a member of the Odd Fellows Society but in his later years did not sustain active relation with the order. His Christian faith was manifest in his membership in the Lutheran church and his life was in harmony with his professions. Mrs. Oakley still resides upon the old homestead with her son, who operates the farm, and the family is well known in the community.

DAVID ANDERSON.

There is no citizen of Sterling who is held in higher regard and esteem than David Anderson, who since 1887 has lived retired in this city, occupying a comfortable home at No. 1609 East Fourth street. He is a native of Bothwell, Scotland, his birth having there occurred on the 17th of March, 1829. Both the paternal and maternal grandparents were natives of Scotland. The paternal grandfather, James Anderson, wedded a Miss Whitelaw and reared a large family. He was a farmer by occupation and died when well advanced in years. The maternal grandfather, James Dick, was also a farmer. He, too, reared a large family and lived to a ripe old age, but his wife died when in middle life.

The parents of our subject, James and Aellison (Dick) Anderson, were likewise natives of Bothwell, Scotland. Of their family of eight children, six sons and two daughters, David of this review, is the only one now living. The father was a farmer in his native country, and in 1854, believing that he might better provide for his wife and family in America, he set sail for the

United States, and upon his arrival on American shores at once made his way to Ogle county, Illinois, settling on a farm in Buffalo township, where lived two of his children, who had preceded him to this country. The father there spent the remainder of his life, passing away in 1861, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty years. His wife survived him for twelve years, when she passed away, having reached the extreme old age of ninety-two years. They were consistent members of the Presbyterian church.

David Anderson, whose name introduces this review, was reared in his native country and there acquired his education. When he attained his majority, in 1850, he and a younger brother, Alexander Anderson, emigrated to the new world, hoping that in this land they might find better opportunities than could be enjoyed in Scotland. Mr. Anderson at once made his way to Ogle county, this state, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he shared with his brother. Later he added a tract of eighty acres to his original purchase, until he became the possessor of one hundred and sixty acres of good farming property. He continued to cultivate his tract of land until 1887, when he retired from agricultural pursuits and removed to Sterling, where he has since made his home, occupying a fine brick residence. In addition to this he also retains possession of his farming property and owns a good residence property in Sterling, located at the corner of Sixth street and Thirteenth avenue, from which he derives a good rental.

Mr. Anderson chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey, Miss Ellen Wilber, to whom he was married on the 29th of March, 1855. Mrs. Anderson is a daughter of Tillinghest and Elmira (Underwood) Wilber, natives of Rhode Island and Massachusetts, respectively. They emigrated from the east to Illinois in 1848, establishing their home in Buffalo Grove, Ogle county, where the father engaged in farming. Both the parents are now deceased, having passed away at Polo, this state, the father when he had reached the very advanced age of eighty-four years, while the mother was one year his junior at the time of her demise. Their family numbered two daughters and one son: Emily, the widow of John Wood, of Lanark, Illinois; William R., of Ashland, Nebraska; and Ellen, now Mrs. Anderson. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Anderson was John Wilber, a native of Rhode Island and a cooper by trade. He became separated from his parents during the Revolutionary war, in which his father, who also bore the name of John Wilber, served as a soldier. John Wilber, Jr., wedded Polly Braham, and they settled at Buffalo Grove in 1845, where they spent their remaining days, the former passing away at the advanced age of ninety-two years, while the latter died at the age of seventy-seven. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Anderson were Jonas and Mary Ann (Pine) Underwood, the former a native of Massachusetts and a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Following the close of hostilities he engaged in farming in Broome county, New York, where both passed away at a ripe old age. They reared a family of ten children.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson has been blessed with one son, Raynold B. Anderson, who wedded Miss Agnes Maxwell, and follows farm-

ing in Newsong township, Ogle county, Illinois. Mr. Anderson gives his political support to the republican party, and his wife is a member of the United Brethren church. He finds his greatest social enjoyment at his own fireside, where his wife and intimate friends know him to be a delightful companion. He has now passed the seventy-ninth milestone on life's journey, and the rest which he is enjoying is well merited. His residence in Sterling covers more than two decades, and therefore few men have more intimate knowledge of its history or of events which have left their impress upon its annals.

JOHN PAPE.

John Pape, who for almost a quarter of a century was numbered among the successful and representative farmers of Ustick township, was born in England on the 30th of September, 1828, and died in 1874. Having spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity, he determined to come to America in the hope of enjoying better business opportunities than were afforded in the old world. Accordingly he crossed the Atlantic and took up his abode in Carroll county, Illinois, where he lived for five years. In 1850 he removed to Whiteside county and secured a farm of eighty acres in Ustick township. It was largely wild and unimproved, but he at once began its further development and cultivation, and as the years passed he converted the place into an excellent farm. There he made his home until his death. He had one brother, George Pape, who, coming to America, lived for a considerable period in Carroll county, but is now deceased.

On the 6th of December, 1860, John Pape was united in marriage to Miss Melvina Green, the wedding being celebrated in Ustick township. She still survives her husband and occupies the home which he built for her. Her parents were Jonathan and Susan Green, natives of Pennsylvania who, emigrating westward, located in Carroll county, Illinois, where they lived until their death. They were the parents of four children: Mrs. Lucretia Hoover, now a resident of Mount Vernon, Ohio; Mrs. Emily Hate, of Winfield, Iowa; Jonathan, who was formerly engaged in the paint business, but is now living retired in Pasadena, California; and Mrs. Pape.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pape six children were born. Mary, who was born March 12, 1862, is now the wife of Samuel J. Hawk, of Fulton, and they have five children, Laura, Edna, George, Clarence and Roy. Jane is the wife of William S. Mitchell, a farmer, and they have five children, Bert, Maude, Alice, Minnie and Cecil. Noah, born December 26, 1863, married Miss Date Dyson and they have six children, Floyd; Cloy, who lives with his grandmother, Mrs. Pape; Blanch; Lee; Leapha; and Zelma. George, born April 2, 1868, married Lizzie Peterkin and they have four children, Lloyd, Lyle, Forrest and Frances. Minnie, born December 27, 1871, is the wife of Frank Milne, of Clyde township, and they have six children, Winnie, Ruby, Maud, Sidney, Verna and Harold. John, born January 26, 1875, married Rose McKee, and resides upon the home farm.

The death of the husband and father occurred in 1874, when he had been a resident of the county for twenty-four years. He was a member of the Masonic lodge and chapter and was an exemplary representative of the craft. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he filled the offices of township assessor and collector. Although many years have passed since he was called from this life he is yet remembered by many of the old settlers as a man who was worthy their confidence and regard and who gained their lasting friendship.

Mrs. Pape still owns eighty acres of land which her son Noah now cultivates. Since the time of her marriage she has resided continuously in Ustick township and has a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of her acquaintance. She belongs to the Eastern Star and is in entire sympathy with the work of the order, which is to promote mutual helpfulness and kindness.

CHARLES EARL WETHERBEE.

In the history of the county's business development and activity mention should be made of Charles Earl Wetherbee, one of the native sons, who by force of his character, his enterprise and his training in the line of his chosen calling has gained success and a position of distinction as an architect. He was born on his father's farm in Sterling township, east of the city, May 1, 1875. His paternal grandfather, Luther B. Wetherbee, was a native of Massachusetts and was a pattern-maker in the east. After removing westward to Whiteside county he secured land and followed farming, taking up two hundred acres from the government, which he brought under a high state of cultivation. Upon that place he reared his family and made it his home until his death, which occurred in 1874, when he had attained an advanced age. His wife passed away in 1878. They were the parents of four children, of whom three are yet living: Charles Adams; Edwin C., of Marshalltown, Iowa; and Ada, the wife of Henry O. Gaston, of Cerro Gordo, Illinois. One daughter died in early childhood.

The eldest of this family and the father of our subject was a native of Massachusetts, and throughout his entire life has been a farmer. During the early epoch in the settlement of this county he came west with his parents, and the farm upon which he now resides was that which his father entered as a claim from the government. Upon that place he was reared to manhood, and has always made the farm his home with the exception of one or two years. He married Miss Margaret Lavinia Penrose, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Marcus Penrose, who was likewise born in the Buckeye state, and was a farmer by occupation. He also came to Whiteside county at an early day and settled on a farm north of Sterling, where he lived until he had attained an advanced age, when he took up his abode in the city, there spending his remaining days. His wife died when in middle life. They were the parents of six children, and after losing his first wife Mr. Penrose mar-

ried again, his second union being with Lydia Kirk. It was his daughter, Margaret Lavinia, who became the wife of Charles Adams Wetherbee. They are members of the Congregational church and are highly esteemed in the locality where they reside. Mr. Wetherbee is a veteran of the Civil war, having served for three years with the Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He joined the army as a private soldier and faithfully defended the old flag. After his return from the south he resumed farming, and is now one of the oldest living residents of the county. He has taken an active part in its public interests as well as its agricultural development, and was road commissioner and supervisor for many years. He also served for one term in the Illinois legislature. Unto him and his wife have been born four children: May Penrose, who is living in Sterling; Ella Dora, who died in 1904; Harriet Ada, the wife of Clarence Johnson, of New York city; and Charles Earl.

Mr. Wetherbee, of this review, was reared on his father's farm, and attended the district school in his boyhood days, while later he continued his education in the Sterling high school and subsequently in the Oberlin Academy and in the Oberlin College. Three years were devoted to his college course, after which he matriculated in the Illinois State University at Champaign and mastered a four years' course. He studied architecture there and after leaving the university entered into partnership with P. T. Van Horn, of Sterling. The partnership continued for two years, after which Mr. Wetherbee purchased Mr. Van Horn's interest, and has since conducted the business alone. As an architect he has planned a number of the principal buildings of Sterling, and has thus contributed to the adornment of the city.

On the 28th of July, 1905, Mr. Wetherbee was married to Miss Faith Leland Bardwell, a daughter of John and Lovilla (Kellogg) Bardwell. Mr. and Mrs. Wetherbee are members of the Congregational church, and he belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M., while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He resides at No. 716 East Seventh street, having purchased the residence there built by Colonel Wilson. It is a beautiful property, and the spirit of hospitality there reigns supreme. Mr. Wetherbee is well known as a representative of one of the old and prominent pioneer families, and his worth is widely recognized in business and social circles.

HON. ALFRED N. ABBOTT.

The life record of Hon. Alfred N. Abbott has left an indelible impress upon the history of Whiteside county and his many friends would not consider this record complete were there failure to make prominent reference to him. He has achieved gratifying success in the business world and at the same time has been actively concerned in affairs of public moment, his labors always being prompted by a spirit of unquestioned devotion to the public good. He resides upon a farm in Ustick township on section 32, which was



ASA M. ABBOTT

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the place of his birth, his natal day being November 2, 1862. His father entered the land from the government during the pioneer epoch in the history of the county, and from the days when Whiteside was upon the frontier until the present the name of Abbott has figured conspicuously and honorably in connection with the development and progress of this portion of the state.

His parents were Asa M. and Sarah (Sperry) Abbott. The former was born in Hartland, Vermont, November 16, 1820, and was a son of Benjamin and Dorcas (Noyes) Abbott, both of whom were natives of New Hampshire and of English lineage. Benjamin Abbott was born in Concord, and was the fifth in direct line in the Abbott family to bear the name of Benjamin. The founder of the Abbott family in America arrived in 1643 and became one of the first settlers of Andover, Massachusetts. On the records of Revolutionary soldiers the name frequently appears. Benjamin Abbott, the great-grandfather of our subject, joined the patriot army at the outbreak of hostilities with the mother country and was wounded in the battle of Bunker Hill. Two of his brothers participated in the battle of Bennington, in which one of them was killed. Benjamin Abbott, the grandfather, making his home in the Green Mountain state, there reared a family of six children. Ephraim, who was a printer by trade, removed westward to St. Louis and was the editor of the first agricultural paper published in the Mississippi valley. Enoch, who engaged in merchandising at New Hampshire, traveled around the world for his health and spent his last days in Concord, New Hampshire, which town was founded by the Abbott family. Asa was the next in order of birth. Laura became the wife of Lansing Morton, of Mortons Corners, New York, and died at the age of twenty-six years. Susan became the wife of Jesse Fry and died leaving two children. Laura married Brigadier General William Clendennin, of Moline.

Reared in the state of his nativity, Asa M. Abbott early learned and followed the gunsmith's trade. At the age of twenty-one he became a resident of St. Louis, Missouri, and in 1847 took up his abode at Fulton, Illinois, where for a brief period he worked as a gunsmith. The following year he secured a claim of eighty acres, which was then wild and unimproved, and with characteristic energy began its development. In his farming operations he prospered and, adding to his possessions, became the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of land in Kansas and three hundred and twenty acres in Illinois, including a valuable timber tract of one hundred and thirty acres. He was prominent in community affairs and aided largely in molding the policy and shaping the destiny of the county during its formative period. He was the first town clerk and filled a number of the township offices. Fraternally he was connected with the Masons and with the Odd Fellows and served as noble grand in the latter organization.

At Oquawka, Illinois, on the 6th of December, 1846, Asa M. Abbott married Miss Sarah Sperry, who was born in Mecca, Ohio, February 18, 1822, a daughter of Joy and Mary Sperry, who in 1830 traveled across the country with ox-teams from Ohio to Henderson county, Illinois. Their

children were: John, now deceased; Charles, who is living at Nephi, Utah; William; Harrison, of Salt Lake City; Aaron and Betsy, deceased; and Mary Anne, who married Royes Oatman, and who with her husband and five children were killed by the Indians in Arizona in 1851 while on their way to California. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Asa M. Abbott were born seven children. Charles E., whose birth occurred December 22, 1847, married Sarah Sperry and is now connected with street railway interests in Salt Lake City, Utah. John Morton, born March 25, 1850, wedded Hannah E. Knight and is a resident farmer of Marshall county, Kansas. Ruth, born June 23, 1852, died May 12, 1855. Theodore Sperry, born September 23, 1855, and now a civil engineer of Saltillo, Mexico, married Lillian Nalle, a native of Virginia, who died August 6, 1902, and in February, 1904, he wedded Grace Alling. Edward Lorenzo, born February 15, 1859, and now a civil engineer of New York city, was married in May, 1888, to Lillian Hartwell. William Lamont, born February 14, 1861, and now an operating engineer with the Edison Commonwealth Electric Company of Chicago, married Caroline Entwistle, September 14, 1887. Alfred N. completes the family. The father died April 8, 1889, and the mother passed away at the age of sixty-eight years.

Alfred N. Abbott, reared upon the old homestead farm, began his education as a district-school student when about six years of age and supplemented his preliminary mental training by study in the State University at Champaign, where three of his brothers had also been students. The occupation to which he was reared he chose as a life work and has long been accounted one of the most enterprising, progressive and successful agriculturists of the community. Since his father's death he had added to the place a tract of one hundred and twenty acres and is now the owner of a valuable farm of four hundred acres, which returns to him a gratifying annual income in golden harvests that result from the care and labor he bestows upon the fields. He has also erected substantial modern buildings and everything about the place indicates his care and supervision and his excellent executive and business ability.

On the 12th of October, 1886, was celebrated the marriage of Alfred N. Abbott and Miss Sarah Green, who was born in Woodbine, Jo Daviess county, Illinois, April 3, 1865. Her father, John H. Green, now a retired farmer, was born June 29, 1831, in Yorkshire, England, and came to America in 1842. He afterward worked in the lead mines near Galena until he attained his majority, when in 1852 he went to the gold fields of California, where he remained for six years. He then returned to Illinois and settled at Woodbine in Jo Daviess county, where he remained until March, 1869, when he took up his abode in Whiteside county. Here he conducted business as an active and prosperous farmer until 1894, when he retired to Morrison to enjoy in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. On the 1st of December, 1860, he was married to Miss Margaret Lowry, who was born on the Isle of Man, September 17, 1844, and on coming to the United States located at Elizabeth, Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Green were born six children: John G., born in Woodbine, August 25, 1862, and now a resident

farmer of Ustick township, married Lydia Steiner and has five children. Mrs. Abbott is the second of the family. May, born November 29, 1873, in this county, is the wife of B. F. Hoover, a resident farmer of Lyndon township, and has two children. Phoebe, born March 19, 1876, is with her parents in Morrison. Daniel died in infancy. Benjamin, born August 22, 1887, is also at home.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott was blessed with four children: Bayard Taylor, born November 5, 1887, and Frances Dorcas, born January 5, 1889, are now members of the sophomore class of the Illinois University at Champaign. Louis Asa, born August 9, 1891, is a high school student in Morrison; and Howard Green, born January 8, 1896, is attending district school.

The family is prominent socially, the members of the household occupying an enviable position in the regard of their associates. Mr. Abbott belongs to the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities and he and his wife are connected with the Eastern Star. He likewise holds membership with Ustick Camp, No. 3995, M. W. A., and with the Mystic Workers. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he has long been recognized as one of its leaders in Whiteside county. He is in thorough sympathy with its principles and its policy and has been almost continuously in public office since attaining his majority. He was only twenty-one years of age when elected justice of the peace, in which position he was continued by re-election for six years. For one term he served as supervisor and in November, 1898, resigned that position to enter upon the duties of representative of his district in the state legislature, to which he had been called by popular vote. While a member of the house he gave careful consideration to each question which came up for settlement and his official record has at all times been characterized by a fidelity to duty that is above question. He is respected and honored wherever known and most of all where best known. His entire life has been passed in Whiteside county upon the farm where he yet resides and his sterling traits of character have made him a man of many friends.

FRANKLIN A. UPTON.

In the death of Franklin A. Upton on the 30th of August, 1886, Whiteside county mourned the loss of one of its native sons, who by his sterling traits of character had gained the confidence and respect of many friends. He was an enterprising farmer living on section 23, Mount Pleasant township, and his birth occurred in Lyndon township on the 27th of April, 1854, his parents being Eli and Elizabeth Ann (Newcomb) Upton. His father, who was an honored pioneer of Whiteside county, and one of its most prosperous farmers, was born in Petersboro, Hillsboro county, New Hampshire, September 28, 1811, a son of Eli and Abigail (Snow) Upton, who were likewise natives of that state, where the father owned and conducted a grist mill

for many years. He spent the last eight years of his life in the home of his son Eli and died at the age of eighty-five years, having long survived his first wife, who died at the age of thirty. Following her demise he afterward married again.

Eli Upton was reared in New Hampshire and in early manhood learned the machinist's trade, which he followed for three years. He was afterward employed as a machinist in a woolen and cotton mill for two years and then went to Yenego, in the state of Sonora, Mexico, with Charles Peck, to set up and put in operation the machinery for a cotton mill to be built at that place. For nearly four years Mr. Upton remained in Mexico and in 1844 returned to the United States. After reaching his old home, he was there married, in June, 1844, to Elizabeth Ann, daughter of John Newcomb, of New Hampshire. Soon afterward the young couple started by way of the lakes for Illinois, reaching Chicago when it was a small and unimportant town. There he purchased a team and wagon and some household utensils and continued on his journey to Whiteside county. For ten years he resided on a farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres on section 6, Lyndon township, and then removed to Mount Pleasant township. At one time he owned about a thousand acres of land. He improved and operated a large farm and was one of the most extensive stock farmers of that day. In all of his business affairs he displayed an aptitude for successful management and in connection with his son George he dealt successfully in Percheron horses for twelve years but gave up business in order to live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former labor. He reached the very venerable age of eighty-nine years, passing away in 1900, while his wife died June 9, 1890, at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of four children who reached adult age, while a daughter, Susan, died at the age of fifteen months. George Y. is now a retired farmer of LaGrange, Illinois, and still owns land in Mount Pleasant township. At the time of the Civil war he served for eighteen months in the Union army. John Eli wedded Mary Galbraith and resided on a farm in Mount Pleasant township but died in 1877, leaving three children. Joseph Snow, who married Augusta Rockwell, is now a farmer of Harwood, North Dakota.

Franklin A. Upton was reared under the parental roof and spent his entire life in this county. His preliminary education was supplemented by study in the Morrison high school and after putting aside his text-books he learned the tinsmith's trade, which he followed for a few years. His time and energies, however, were largely given to general farming and stock-raising. He was successful in this work by reason of his unfaltering diligence and keen discrimination and in all of his business dealings was known to be fair, reliable and trustworthy.

Mr. Upton was married to Miss Ellen J. Puddifoot, who was born in Ustick township, this county, a daughter of Alfred and Lucy (Tooley) Puddifoot, who came here in 1855 from London, England, where they were married. They established their home in Ustick township and after living there for some time the father purchased a farm in Clyde township, where he capably and successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits until

he retired with a handsome competence and removed to Morrison, where he still resides. He is an energetic, alert and prosperous business man and a most highly respected citizen, and throughout the community has many warm friends. His wife died in 1892, at the age of sixty-four years. She was a lady of many excellent traits of heart and mind and many friends keenly felt her loss. In their family were eight children, of whom six are yet living: Mary Ann, who was born in England and died in Clyde township in 1879; Lizzie, the wife of George S. Peet, a resident of New Haven, Connecticut; Mrs. Ellen J. Upton, of this review; Albert, who is living in Morrison; Amelia, the wife of Fred J. Richardson, who resides in Morrison; Charles H., a commercial traveler, whose home is in St. Joseph, Missouri; Jesse, who is engaged in the hotel business in Ward, Colorado; and Ida May, who died in infancy.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Upton were born four children, all natives of Whiteside county. Clifford J., born November 6, 1878, is now a roll turner for the Lackawanna Steel Company, at Buffalo, New York. He married Fannie Holmgren, of Chicago. William A., born May 4, 1880, and now connected with mining interests at Ward, Colorado, married Bessie Nichols, of Chicago. Eli L., born February 24, 1882, married Florence L. Wells, of Chicago, and resides in that city, being employed in the plate mill of the Illinois Steel Company. Mabel B., born January 6, 1886, is the wife of R. W. Sutherland, of Ward, Colorado.

Franklin A. Upton was a democrat in his political views and always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day but was never an office seeker. He belonged to the Odd Fellows society and was greatly esteemed by his brethren of that organization. His upright, honorable life made him a worthy representative of a prominent pioneer family and his many commendable traits of character gained him a high position in the esteem of those with whom he was associated. Following her husband's death Mrs. Upton carefully reared her family and resided in Whiteside county until 1894, when she removed to Chicago, where she now makes her home. However, she still owns property in Mount Pleasant township and numbers many friends among her acquaintances in this part of the state.

DAVID HYDE.

David Hyde, enjoying well earned rest in the evening of life, was in former years connected with agricultural pursuits in Hopkins township, but is now living retired in Como. He has passed the eighty-eighth milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, November 7, 1819. His parents were David and Barbara (Stoner) Hyde, who were likewise natives of Lancaster county, where they spent their entire lives. The maternal grandfather, David Stoner, a native of Germany, on emigrating from that country, crossed the Atlantic to the new world and be-

came the founder of the family in Lancaster county. He married a Miss Herr, who was a native of Pennsylvania. The family is noted for longevity, many of the members reaching advanced age. The father, David Hyde, was a soldier of the war of 1812. In the east he followed farming, and there reared his family of twelve children, namely: Mary, Elizabeth, Lucy, John, Henry, Adam, David, William, Catherine, Susan, Christine and Katherine. But two of the number now survive, Susan and David.

The latter was about fifteen years of age when he started in life on his own account. He had up to that time remained with his parents, but now he began work as a farm hand and was employed by others until eighteen years of age. He then turned his attention to the milling business, which he learned in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania. He served a three years' apprenticeship and afterward worked at the same place as a journeyman for about five years more. Thus his time was busily occupied, and he learned the value of industry and unfaltering diligence.

On the 24th of August, 1843, Mr. Hyde was married to Miss Anna Difenbach, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Bressler) Difenbach, who were natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where they lived and died. Mr. and Mrs. Hyde came to Sterling in 1855, after residing for twelve years in the east, and settled near the city. For many years Mr. Hyde followed farming for George Hoover, and in 1893 purchased a farm in Hopkins township—the old Loomis place, which he owned and cultivated for ten years, bringing the fields under a high state of improvement. He sold that property in 1903, and has since lived in Como, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits. He is a wonderfully well preserved man for one of his age, the years resting lightly upon him. He has here a few acres of land which he cultivates, working every day, and in the winter time hauls large loads of wood, which he cuts and splits for fuel. There are, indeed, few who reach his age who possess so much vigor and ambition.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hyde have been born three children who are now living: Samuel, a resident of Sterling; Louise, who is the widow of John Reese, and resides in Pontiac, Illinois; and Libby, the wife of the Rev. John Van Avery, who is living near Pontiac.

Mr. Hyde cast his first vote for General Harrison, and also voted for Henry Clay. He has since voted at every presidential election with one exception, and has been unfaltering on his support of the political principles which he has deemed would prove of the greatest benefit to the country. He was born during the presidential administration of James Monroe, and has lived through a most momentous period in the history of the country. Even in the east hardly a railroad had been built, and the steamboat was yet an experiment. Mr. Hyde saw the first railroad in the United States, the road being built of wooden rails covered with strap iron. He remembers seeing the first two railroad engines called the Johnny Bull and Firefly. A notable event in his life was his meeting with General La Fayette, upon his return to this country. He has lived to see the country crossed and recrossed with the great network of railroads, has seen the introduction of the telegraph and the telephone, the automobile and the improved machinery which has entirely

revolutionized the methods of farming since his boyhood days. In his early life farming was practically carried on as it had been through centuries, and there has been greater change in the work of developing the soil and caring for the crops than in perhaps any other line of life. Mr. Hyde has always kept apace with the general progress and has rejoiced in what has been accomplished. He and his wife have traveled life's journey together for nearly sixty-three years, in sunshine and storm, amid all the changing events of their lives, sharing their joys and sorrows, and now, with the sun far down the western slope, their lives are tranquil and serene, and all who know them hold them in highest esteem. During the years of their residence in Whiteside county they have won lasting friendships and their memory will be cherished long after they have passed away. They are both members of the Presbyterian church at Sterling, and have lived in harmony with their professions in the Christian faith.

HENRY GEORGE KOHL.

The spirit of enterprise and close application which are the salient features in the successful business career are manifest in Mr. Kohl, who is conducting a barber shop on East Third street in Sterling. This is his native city, his birth having here occurred July 27, 1879. His parents were Herman and Sophia (Winckus) Kohl, natives of Düsseldorf, Germany. The father was a cooper by trade and in 1869 came to America, settling in Sterling, where he followed coopering for many years. He afterward worked in a distillery for several years and since that time he has lived retired. He has now reached the age of eighty years, while his wife is seventy years of age. Both are members of the Roman Catholic church. Their family numbered ten children, seven sons and three daughters: Joe; Frank; John; Adam; Gertrude, the wife of D. P. Crook; Matthew; Peter; Isabel, the wife of Frank Boehm; Rose, the wife of C. E. Derwent; and Henry George, of this review.

In taking up the personal history of Mr. Kohl, whose name introduces this record, we present to our readers the life of one who is widely and favorably known in Sterling, where he was reared. He attended the public schools and also the Sacred Heart parochial school and after putting aside his text-books he began learning the barber's trade. He thoroughly qualified for that work and in June, 1901, opened a shop of his own. He now has a shop with four chairs at No. 1 East Third street and has an excellent patronage from among the best people of Sterling and vicinity. He employs capable, courteous workmen and is meeting with gratifying success in his undertakings.

On the 11th of July, 1906, Mr. Kohl was married to Miss Tessie M. Wetzell, a daughter of John Henry and Kate (Horlicker) Wetzell. They now have one son, Vincent Henry. Mr. Kohl is a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic church and belongs to the Knights of Columbus. He has

spent his entire life in Sterling, has always been industrious and ambitious to succeed and has gained a gratifying patronage here. In character development, too, he has made commendable progress and enjoys the confidence and high esteem of those who know him. His acquaintance here is a wide one, as Sterling has been the place of his residence throughout his entire life.

SAMUEL A. SHARER.

Samuel A. Sharer, a successful agriculturist and stock-raiser, residing in Garden Plain township, was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, May 15, 1863, a son of Samuel and Magdalena (Hoy) Sharer, likewise natives of the Keystone state. The grandparents of our subject emigrated from Germany to America at a very early day, settling in Pennsylvania. The paternal grandfather, Henry Sharer, reared a family of eight children, of whom Samuel Sharer, the father of our subject, was the only one who ever came west. It was in the year 1865 that he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, purchasing one hundred acres of land, at forty dollars per acre, from his father, Henry Sharer, who had bought the tract originally. It was on this farm that Samuel Sharer, Sr., principally reared his family and carried on agricultural pursuits throughout his active business life, his death occurring April 25, 1892, when he had attained the age of sixty-three years, two months and eleven days. By his first wife, who passed away January 30, 1889, at the age of fifty-nine years, five months and four days, he had ten children, namely: Annie M., the wife of Philander Ryersee, of Ness county, Kansas; Mary, the wife of Benjamin Schisler; John H., of Garden Plain township; David, who resides in Kansas; Joseph O., who makes his home in Davenport, Iowa; Minerva J., the wife of Richard Schisler, of Harrisburg, Oregon; Elmer M., who lives in Kansas; Samuel A., of this review; Jeremiah J., of Abingdon, Illinois; and Louella A., the wife of Frank Huggins. In 1891 the father of this family was again married, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth Young, of Center county, Pennsylvania.

Brought to Whiteside county when but two and a half years of age, Samuel A. Sharer still resides on the farm which his father purchased at that early day. He acquired his education in the Cedar Creek schoolhouse, and when he had attained his majority began working for his father on a salary. In 1891 his father removed to Albany, but he remained on the old homestead farm and has lived here continuously to the present time, being actively and successfully engaged in its cultivation and development. He has one hundred and forty-five acres of land, has ever displayed unremitting industry and sound business judgment in the conduct of his farming and stock-raising interests and is therefore meeting with a well-merited measure of prosperity.

On the 21st of October, 1903, Mr. Sharer was united in marriage to Miss Bertha P. Starbuck, a native of Sutton, West Virginia, and a daughter



MR. AND MRS. S. A. SHARER

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of B. B. and Mary E. (Skidmore) Starbuck, also natives of West Virginia. The Starbucks came from England and located in Massachusetts, thence removed to Indiana and subsequently settled in West Virginia, in which state Mrs. Sharer was reared and educated. Unto Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Starbuck were born four children: Alpheus C., of Sterling, Illinois; Mrs. Sharer; Grover C., of Summersville, West Virginia; and Earl B. The mother of this family passed away July 14, 1890, while her husband survived until March 7, 1901, when he, too, was called to his final rest. Since 1902 A. C. Starbuck has resided in Sterling, and in 1906 Earl B. Starbuck came to Whiteside county, now making his home with Mr. and Mrs. Sharer. The latter are the parents of one daughter, Veda Louise.

Mr. Sharer usually votes with the democracy and fraternally is connected with Albany Lodge, No. 566, A. F. & A. M., and Social Chapter, No. 87, O. E. S., with which his wife is also identified. Having resided in this county throughout almost his entire life, he is largely familiar with the annals of this part of the state from pioneer times down to the present and in the work of development and progress has ever borne his full share.

HENRY B. WILKINSON.

Henry B. Wilkinson, engaged in the abstract business in Morrison since 1883 and a member of the firm of Wilkinson & Company since 1901, was born in Como, Whiteside county, in 1849. His father, Winfield Scott Wilkinson, was a native of Skaneateles, New York, and of English lineage. His grandfather, John Wilkinson, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, enlisting with the New York troops.

W. S. Wilkinson was a civil engineer who pursued his education at Georgetown, Kentucky, and was graduated on completing a classical course. He came to Illinois about 1838, settling first in Jacksonville, where he engaged in his profession. While a resident of that city he was chosen to represent his district in the Illinois legislature. About 1840 he arrived in Whiteside county, taking up his abode at Como, where he continued to engage in surveying and civil engineering. There he remained until 1856, when he was elected county clerk and then removed to Sterling, the county seat. He was an incumbent in this office for twelve years, being first elected on the democratic ticket and reelected on the non-partisan ticket. He proved a most acceptable officer, retiring from the position as he had entered it—with the confidence and respect of all concerned. Further political honors awaited him, for his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, elected him to represent the senatorial district in the upper house of the state legislature. There he gave careful consideration to every question which came up for settlement and his loyalty to the public welfare was above question. At length he retired from active business pursuits, coming to Morrison in 1858, when the county seat was changed to this place, spending the evening of his life in well earned rest here. He was a good business man, manifest-

ing unwearied industry and capable management, so that his undertakings were crowned with success. His labors, too, were of a character that proved a benefit to the community at large while promoting his individual prosperity. He was one of the organizers, stockholders and directors of the First National Bank of Morrison and during his service as county clerk he was instrumental in forwarding the drainage of swamp lands in this county and thus reclaiming them for the purpose of cultivation. He was the engineer who laid out the drain in the county in the Green river district and many other specific evidences of his usefulness could be given. Although not identified with any denomination, he had strong religious views and contributed generously to the support of the churches, desiring the moral development of the community. He voted the democratic ticket but was not unalterably bound by party ties. Aside from the other offices which he filled he acted as a member of the city council of Morrison and in community affairs took a deep and helpful interest.

W. S. Wilkinson married Frances E. Sampson, who was born in Duxbury, Massachusetts, in 1814, and was also of English lineage, tracing her ancestry back to the Mayflower. Two brothers of the name of Sampson—Henry and William—were passengers on that historic vessel on one of its voyages to the new world. Mrs. Wilkinson traces her ancestry back to the former. Her parents were Henry Briggs and Nancy (Turner) Sampson. The father followed a sea-faring life and became captain of a merchantman sailing between Massachusetts and the chief ports of Europe and the East Indies. About 1840 the family moved westward to Tremont, on the Illinois river, where they lived for a short time and then took up their abode at Como, where Captain Sampson conducted a hotel for many years, becoming one of the historic characters of that locality. His daughter, Mrs. Wilkinson, was a most estimable lady, her life being ever in harmony with her professions as a member of the Swedenborgian church. Her death occurred in 1890, while Winfield S. Wilkinson passed away in 1893, at the age of eighty-one years. In their family were the following children: Mary Chapin, who became the wife of C. H. Cogswell, a physician of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and who died in 1903; Alfred Ernest, reporter for the supreme court at Austin, Texas; Henry B.; one who died in infancy; and Frank, also deceased.

Henry B. Wilkinson attended the public schools of Sterling and of Morrison and after entering business life spent nine years in connection with the iron and steel industries and also two or three years in the Dakotas. In 1883 he succeeded his uncle, H. R. Sampson, in the abstract business, in which he has since engaged, covering a period of a quarter of a century. In 1901 a company was formed and the business has since been conducted under the firm style of Wilkinson & Company, abstractors. In connection with his other interests, Mr. Wilkinson is a stockholder and director in the First National Bank of Morrison.

In 1903 was celebrated the marriage of Henry B. Wilkinson and Abbieta Porter, who was born in Newark, New Jersey. They are well known and prominent socially, and the hospitality of their home is enjoyed by their many friends. Mr. Wilkinson is a democrat but without aspiration for

political office. He is, however, interested in the welfare and development of his community and withholds his cooperation from no movement which he deems will prove of benefit. He is now president of the Odell Public Library board and is a member of the township high school board. The greater part of his life has been passed in Whiteside county and the fact that many of his warmest friends are those who have known him from his childhood to the present time indicates that his has been an honorable and upright career.

JAMES S. NANCE.

It is no easy thing to advance from a position of limited financial resources to one of affluence but this Mr. Nance has done, living a life of intense and well directed business activity. He was born January 6, 1865, in Genesee township on a farm which he now owns and operates.

His father, James R. Nance, was a native of Indiana, born December 29, 1831, and his last days were spent in Sterling, where he passed away November 25, 1893. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Eleanor Smith, was born July 8, 1829, and died October 7, 1900. She, too, was a resident of Sterling at the time of her demise. It was in the year 1852 that James R. Nance arrived in this county, and during the first year he worked by the month. At the end of the year he was paid one-half of his wages in gold and given seven and a half acres of land at Genesee Grove. He walked to Fulton and took a steamboat to Rock Island and on the trip was robbed of his money and the paper giving him title to the land. All that he had left was seventy-five cents, which he had in his inside pocket. As they neared Rock Island he was approached by one of the hands on the boat, who told him if he would treat the crowd they would return him his papers for the land. He said that it was impossible for him to do so but that he had an overcoat that he would pawn for the treats, and the drink cost him seventy-five cents, so that he was left penniless. His papers, however, were returned to him, together with a deed of eighty acres which he had bought. He left the boat at Rock Island and walked forty-two miles to the home of an uncle, where he worked until he obtained sufficient money to enable him to start in life upon an independent business career. He then went to Indiana, where he was married in 1854 to Miss Eleanor Smith. With his bride he returned to this county and upon his claim erected a little log cabin, occupying the present site of the home of James S. Nance. With characteristic energy he began the development of his farm, and as the years passed brought the land under a high state of cultivation. At length he retired in 1891 and spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest in Sterling, where he passed away November 25, 1893. His widow survived him for about seven years and died on the 7th of October, 1900, in Sterling. In the family of this worthy couple were nine children: Esabinda, now Mrs. Becker, of Sterling; Mrs. Rebecca Leinbech,

also a resident of Sterling; Mrs. Anna Johnson, who is living in Arkansas; James S., of this review; Hattie; and Mary, William, Edith and Emma, all now deceased.

James S. Nance was reared upon the old homestead farm and early became familiar with the work of tilling the fields, planting the crops and in the late autumn gathering the harvests. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges and when twenty-one years of age he began farming on his own account by renting his father's place. He continued to lease it year after year until the death of his father, when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of the home place in Genesee township. He has since extended its boundaries somewhat, for his farm now comprises one hundred and eighty-six acres of rich and productive land. He makes a specialty of stock-raising and at the same time produces good crops through the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields.

On the 31st of July, 1886, Mr. Nance was married to Miss Sarah Bushman, who was born in Genesee township, February 15, 1865, a daughter of Henry and Levina (Burghduff) Bushman. Her father, a native of Cayuga county, New York, was born September 22, 1822, and died November 23, 1903. The mother's birth occurred January 3, 1838, in Wayne county, New York, and she passed away February 3, 1873. There were nine children in that family, but only four are now living: Charles H., a resident of Carroll county, Illinois; Colonel, who is living in this county; Harlan, whose home is in Genesee township; and Mrs. Nance.

Mr. and Mrs. Nance have no children of their own but have three adopted children: Bertha, Clyde and Elsie M., to whom they give all parental care and attention. They are members of the United Brethren church and are interested in the moral, intellectual and social progress of the community as well as in its material development. Mr. Nance gives his political allegiance to the republican party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. For fifteen years he served as school director and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. The fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present indicates that his life has been well spent.

ALLEN R. HENDRICKS.

The growth and prosperity of any community depends upon its commercial and industrial interests, and in this connection Mr. Hendricks is one of the upbuilders and promoters of Sterling, where he is successfully engaged in trade as a druggist and pharmacist. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, August 29, 1849, his parents being Ephraim D. and Mary D. (Rosenberry) Hendricks, who were natives of the Keystone state. The paternal grandfather was also born in that state, where he followed the occupation of farming until his death, which occurred when he was in the prime

of life. His son, Ephraim D. Hendricks, was one of a large family, and as a young man he learned and followed the tailor's trade. In 1851 he made his way to the middle west, settling in Sterling, Illinois, where he engaged in tailoring for a year, and then bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Jordan township, Whiteside county. Of this he afterward sold forty acres, and cultivated the remainder until 1863. In that year he removed to Clay county, Illinois, where he again purchased a tract of farming land, but in 1865 returned to Whiteside county and bought a farm near Tampico, upon which he resided for several years. On the expiration of that period he made his home in Sterling, and a few years later removed to Cawker City, Kansas, where he died September 6, 1903, at the venerable age of seventy-nine years. His wife survived him until March 24, 1904, passing away at the age of seventy-eight years. Both were members of the Reformed Mennonite church. Mrs. Hendricks' father was also a native of Pennsylvania, where he owned a small farm. She was one of six or seven children, and by her marriage became the mother of four children: Allen R.; Benjamin F., a resident of Morrison, Illinois; John R., living at Walnut Ridge, Arkansas; and Charles R., whose home is in Glen Elder, Kansas.

Allen R. Hendricks was not quite two years of age when his parents took up their abode near Sterling. Here he was reared to manhood and acquired his education. His boyhood and youth were passed upon the home farm, but thinking to find other pursuits more congenial than the work of the fields, he became a newsboy on the railroad, being thus engaged for one season. He next began clerking in a drug store, and served for eight years in that capacity. He studied pharmacy under Dr. W. J. Galt, and upon the death of his preceptor formed a partnership with Henry Keefer for the purchase of Dr. Galt's store. They conducted the business together for five years, after which Mr. Hendricks sold his interest and started upon an independent business venture. He remained alone in the successful conduct of a drug store until 1905, when a stock company was formed and the business was continued under the name of the Hendricks Drug Company, of which A. R. Hendricks is president, treasurer and manager. He has a fine store, well appointed in all of its equipments, and carries on an extensive and profitable business.

On the 25th of September, 1873, Mr. Hendricks was married to Miss Susan Moyer, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Moyer) Moyer. They have become the parents of four children: Olive Grace, now the wife of Edward Haberley, by whom she has one daughter, Marian; Leon Sumner, who died when a little more than four years of age; Lester Blaine, who is attending the Illinois State University at Champaign, where he is studying electrical engineering; and LeRoy Russell, who, as a high school student, is preparing for college. Mrs. Hendricks is a member of the Christian church.

Mr. Hendricks belongs to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., in which he is serving as a trustee. He is likewise a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and has filled nearly all of the chairs, having for two years been grand master of the state, while at the present writing he is one of the three delegates to represent the state in the supreme body. He affiliates

with the Knights of the Globe and the Mystic Workers, and enjoys in large measure the confidence and good will of his brethren of these fraternities. Nor is Mr. Hendricks unknown in political circles. He stands staunchly as a supporter of republican principles, has been chairman of the town central committee, and is serving his second term as alderman of the First ward. He was for six years assistant supervisor, and during one year of that time was chairman of the county board. Thus active in fraternal, political and business circles, he is well known as a leading and representative citizen of Sterling, and one whose genuine worth commands for him the good will and high regard of those with whom he is brought in contact. Moreover, he has been a resident of the county for much more than a half century, and has, therefore, been a witness of the greater part of its development and growth.

FRED L. BAKER.

Fred L. Baker, who carries on general farming and stock-raising upon a tract of land of one hundred and twenty acres on section 15, Mount Pleasant township, which has come into his possession as the result of the energy and capable management he has displayed in earlier years, was born in Tipton, Cedar county, Iowa, October 9, 1861, his parents being Jason L. and Martha (Van Meter) Baker, natives of New York and Ohio respectively. The father came to Whiteside county over sixty years ago. After living here for a time, he removed to Iowa but later returned to this county, where he made his home until his death in December, 1877, when he was forty years of age. His widow still resides at Sterling, at the age of sixty-six years. They were married in Tipton, Iowa, where the father carried on work at the carpenter's trade. In fact throughout his entire life he was thus identified with building operations. His widow, a most remarkable lady, holds membership with the Fourth Street Methodist Episcopal church. Their family numbered five children: Etta J., who became the wife of Andrew Knox and died in November, 1884; Fred L., of this review; Will H., who is married and resides in San Diego, California, where he carries on business as a contractor and builder; Bert F., who at one time taught school and was superintendent of schools at Chadwick and afterward at Warren, Illinois, for five years but now resides near Minot, North Dakota, where he follows farming, although in the meantime he engaged in the insurance business; and Cora Belle, who died in 1881, at the age of eleven years.

Fred L. Baker was reared in Whiteside county and attended the public schools at Unionville, where he received instruction in the branches of learning that usually constitute the public-school curriculum. He has followed farming throughout his entire life. In 1894 he purchased his present place, known as the Henry Knox farm. Much of the improvement here has been done by Mr. Baker, who keeps in touch with modern ideas of progressive agriculture. He uses the latest farm machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and annually produces large crops, which indicate that the methods employed in carrying on his farm are of a most practical character.

In March, 1886, Mr. Baker was united in marriage to Miss Etta Stone, a native of Prophetstown township, and a daughter of Reed and Esther (Garrison) Stone, who came very early to Whiteside county. Here the father engaged in farming and later removed to Michigan but subsequently came again to this county, where he died in June, 1894, at the age of seventy-nine years. His wife passed away in 1897, at the age of seventy-three years. Mr. Stone had served as school director and was interested in all that pertained to upbuilding and progress here. He and his wife had come to the west from the state of New York and their personal worth was indicated by the high regard in which they were uniformly held. They had a family of nine children, seven sons and two daughters. Nelson, now a farmer of South Dakota, married Miss Potter and has a family. Sarah married Orrin Moran and lives in Michigan. Charles, who wedded Rosetta Moran, is a resident farmer of Michigan. Arthur makes his home at Spring Hill in this county. Philip, who married Miss Digby, is employed in the wire mills at Rock Falls. Mrs. Baker is the next of the family. Erastus, who married Miss Wilson, of Morrison, is employed in the Keystone Mills at Rock Falls. Carson, who wedded Miss White, is a barber of Battle Creek, Iowa. Harry, who married Miss Rosetta Crump, of Mount Pleasant township, this county, is now located in Nebraska.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Baker has been blessed with two sons and a daughter: Clarence L., who at the age of twenty-one years, aids in the operation of the home farm; Vernon L., who at the age of sixteen years is attending the Mount Pleasant high school; and Edna B., twelve years of age, also a student in the schools.

Politically Mr. Baker is independent, supporting men and measures rather than party. He has been school director for many years and is now serving as highway commissioner, which office he has filled for two years. In this position he is giving excellent service and has done much to improve the public highways. Socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp of Morrison and his wife is a member of the Mystic Workers and also of the Woman's Relief Corps, and she attends the Methodist Episcopal church. While a native of Iowa, Mr. Baker has spent the greater part of his life in this county and the fact that many of his warmest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time is an indication that his has been an active, upright career.

RICHARD W. COVEL.

Richard W. Covell, a representative of the farming interests of Coloma township, was born in East Roxbury, Delaware county, New York, December 28, 1848, his parents being Edwin and Irene (Wilson) Covell, who were also natives of the Empire state, as were likewise the paternal and maternal grandparents. They were prosperous farming people of the locality, and enjoyed the respect of friends and neighbors.

Richard W. Covell, reared under the parental roof, acquired his education in the public schools, was trained to habits of industry and integrity, and thus laid a good foundation for his life work. He was about twenty-four years of age when he started out on his own account, and in the spring of 1874 he arrived in Sterling, Illinois, since which time he has made his home in Whiteside county. Here he sought and soon found employment as a farm laborer, and was thus engaged for about ten years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings, and at length gained a sum sufficient to justify his purchase of a farm. He then bought the E. Bowen, or Woodlawn farm, upon which he lived for nine years, and next purchased the farm where he made his home for sixteen years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode on the place which he now occupies, and where he has lived since 1903. Here he owns two hundred and sixty-one acres of arable land under a good state of cultivation, and in its midst stands a comfortable dwelling, with large barns and many substantial outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. Everything is now in a state of good repair, and he uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields. In addition to tilling the soil he has recently equipped his place for the conduct of a dairy business, and is increasing his interests along this line.

On the 4th of January, 1880, Mr. Covell was married to Miss Amanda Delp, a daughter of Jacob and Cornelia (Thompson) Delp, natives of Illinois. Mrs. Covell was born on the 8th of October, 1861, in Jordan township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Covell have been born two daughters and two sons, Florence D., Mary Pearle, Richard and John Russell, all of whom are under the parental roof.

In religious faith Mr. Covell is a Methodist, and his belief guides his acts in all his relations with his fellowmen. His political preference is for the republican party, but official honors and emoluments have little attraction for him, as he prefers to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, and by his close application and executive ability he has become a prosperous farmer.

CHARLES A. HAMILTON.

On the roster of county officials of Whiteside county appears the name of Charles A. Hamilton, who in the fall of 1906 was elected sheriff. He is now discharging the duties of the office without fear or favor and his course has won uniform commendation. He is recognized as one of the stalwart supporters of the republican party and one of its leaders in local ranks.

His birth occurred at Lyndon in this county, September 13, 1858, his parents being John M. and Anna B. (Thompson) Hamilton. The father was born in Northampton, Massachusetts, May 12, 1814, and died in February, 1906. He was of Scotch-Irish descent and was a son of Adam R. Hamilton, who served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812, being a member of a Massachusetts regiment. John M. Hamilton devoted his life



C. A. HAMILTON

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to general agricultural pursuits and in 1835 removed from the state of New York to Illinois with his parents, who settled in Lyndon township. Three families—the Woodruffs, the Dudleys and the Hamiltons—came at that time and were the first settlers of the district. John M. Hamilton and his father entered government land, upon which they took up their abode and spent their remaining days, and when their life's labors were ended their remains were interred in the Lyndon cemetery. As the years passed John M. Hamilton accumulated considerable property, meeting with gratifying prosperity in his business undertakings. He was also an advocate of everything that promoted the intellectual and moral progress of the community and was a charter member of the Congregational church of Lyndon, in which both he and his father served as deacons. In fact, throughout the community he was everywhere known as Deacon Hamilton. In politics he was an old-line whig until after the organization of the republican party, when he cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to various township offices. His hearing becoming affected so that it interfered with his participation in public interests, he devoted the greater part of his time to reading and became a well-informed man. He felt it his duty as a citizen to go to the polls and cast his ballot in support of the principles which he deemed would best conserve the public welfare and thus never failed to exercise his right of franchise.

John M. Hamilton married Mrs. Anna B. (Thompson) Wilder, a widow, who was born in Pennsylvania and died November 27, 1890. She was of Scotch lineage and she held membership in the Congregational church. By this marriage there were born three children, of whom George W. died in infancy. The others are Charles A. and Frederick E. The latter was born October 29, 1860, and after some years' connection with the Adams Express Company died in 1894, leaving a son, Charles L. Hamilton, who is now a farmer of Lyndon. Previous to his marriage to Mrs. Wilder, Mr. Hamilton had wedded Emily Wright, of New York, and to them were born three children: John L., who enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and is now in the Soldiers' Home at Quincy, Illinois; Caroline A., the deceased wife of J. H. Smith, of Morrison; and Elvira P., the deceased wife of Philip M. Stone.

Charles A. Hamilton attended the district schools and the Lyndon high school. He was reared on a farm and lived upon the old homestead, carefully conducting agricultural interests until he was elected sheriff in the fall of 1906. He still owns the old home property, comprising two hundred and fifty-four acres of rich and productive land. This place, upon which the family residence now stands, has never been out of possession of the Hamiltons since it was entered from the government. In his farm work Mr. Hamilton was energetic and capable and the fields annually brought to him a good return for his labor.

In June, 1881, was celebrated the marriage of Charles A. Hamilton and Miss Theora E. Helms, who was born in Ustick township in 1861, a daughter of Henry E. and Lucy G. Helms. Her father was a farmer and a native of Hamburg, Germany, whence he came to the United States when sixteen

years of age. On coming to Whiteside county he took up his abode in Ustick township. He wedded Lucy G. Gould, a daughter of Thomas Gould, one of the pioneer settlers of Lyndon township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton were born seven children: Grace E., born August 4, 1885, who is now engaged in teaching school; Arthur E., who was born October 30, 1887, and is attending the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor; Herbert E., who passed away when but three years of age; Lucy E., whose birth occurred in 1895; John Henry, born in 1899; Cora L., in 1903; and Donald W., in 1906.

The parents were members of the Congregational church. Mr. Hamilton is connected with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen and the Mystic Workers. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he has served as school director and town clerk, while for thirteen terms he was assessor of his township. He has always taken an active interest in party affairs and in the fall of 1906 was elected on the republican ticket to the office of sheriff, in which position he is now serving, being most prompt and reliable in the performance of the duties that devolve upon him in this connection. As a representative of one of the oldest families of the county he is well known and, as did his father and grandfather, he stands for all that is progressive and helpful in citizenship.

GEORGE POWELL PERRY.

George Powell Perry, senior partner of the firm of Perry & Perry, druggists, was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, October 24, 1849, his parents being Henry C. and Malinda B. (Jefferis) Perry, who resided at Wilmington, Delaware. They had two sons, Enos J. and George P. The mother died when they were only eight months old, and the father afterward married Miss Clarissa Thomas, of Maryland. There were three children born of that union: Harry L., who lives in Dallastown, Pennsylvania; Clara Viola, the wife of David Hyson, of Hampstead, Maryland; and Effie Jane. The father was a carpenter by trade and afterward followed the occupation of farming. He came to Illinois about 1855 and settled in Carroll county, where he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits. He afterward removed from there to Red Oak, Iowa, where he died in 1871, at the age of forty-seven years. His first wife died in 1850, while his second wife survived him for only three months.

George P. Perry and his twin brother, following their mother's death, were reared by some aunts and their maternal grandmother, and Enos J. Perry is now a distinguished dentist of Chicago. George P. Perry was reared to manhood in Carroll county, Illinois, upon a farm. He attended the public schools of Mount Carroll and afterward took up the study of medicine under Dr. Shimer, while for one term he was a student in the Chicago Medical College in 1871. He afterward entered a drug store at Fulton, Illinois, where he remained for a year or more, and then spent sixteen months in a drug

store in Moline. In 1874 he came to Sterling, where he was employed in different drug stores, and on the 4th of July, 1888, he became proprietor of a store, which he has since conducted. He carries a large and well selected line of drugs and kindred goods, tastefully arranged, and the business is accorded a liberal patronage in recognition of the honorable methods pursued by the house.

In September, 1875, Mr. Perry was married, in Mount Carroll, to Miss Sophia E. Shirk, a daughter of Jacob and Susan (Stauffer) Shirk. They have become the parents of three children: Raymond, a resident of New York city, who married Emily Russell, a niece of Sol Smith Russell, the renowned actor; William H., who is a senior in the medical department of the Northwestern University, and who married Miss Mary A. Davis, by whom he has one child, Sophie Marie; and Linda, the wife of E. W. Aument, of Sterling, by whom she has one son, Richard Perry Aument.

The parents are members of the Baptist church, in the work of which they are deeply and helpfully interested, and Mr. Perry is serving as one of the deacons. Politically he was a republican until recent years, but has now very strong tendencies toward the prohibition party. He resides at No. 408 West Third street. His worth and reliability as a business man and citizen are widely known and have gained him classification with the representative and honored residents of this city.

ADAM C. LEINBACH.

Adam C. Leinbach, who has long been actively and successfully associated with agricultural interests in Whiteside county, and is now a well known real estate dealer of Sterling, was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, near Reading, July 3, 1855. His paternal grandfather, Jacob Leinbach, was also a native of Pennsylvania, but of German descent. He was a farmer by occupation, and both he and his wife, Mrs. Catharine Leinbach, lived to an advanced age and reared a large family. Their son, James Leinbach, was born in the Keystone state, made farming his life work and is now living retired in Reading, Pennsylvania, at the age of eighty-one years. He married Catharine Ahrens, who was likewise born in Pennsylvania, although her father was a native of France. On coming to the new world he settled in Berks county, where he followed carpentering and farming. Both Mr. and Mrs. James Leinbach are still living, and are members of the Reformed church. Their family numbered ten children, six sons and four daughters: Adam C., of Sterling; Reuben, of Reading, Pennsylvania; James, who is living in Richmond, Pennsylvania; John, deceased; Calvin and Washington, who are residents of Reading; Mary; Katie; Angeline; and Hattie.

In the county of his nativity Adam C. Leinbach was reared upon a farm and attended the common schools, remaining under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He spent one year, however, in working at the carpenter's trade. He was afterward employed at farm labor by the month

and, thinking to have better business opportunities in the middle west, he came to Sterling in 1877 and soon secured a position as a farm hand. Desiring that his labors, however, should more directly benefit himself, he rented a farm for two years, after which he married. He then continued to cultivate rented land until about 1888, when, with the capital he had saved from his earnings, he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Genesee township, Whiteside county, and devoted four years to its further development and improvement. He then sold that property and bought one hundred and sixty acres known as the David Wetzel farm, which he still owns. He cultivated it successfully, annually gathering good crops until 1900, when he took up his abode in the county seat and established a real-estate business. He has since negotiated many important property transfers, and his well directed energy and keen business discernment are constituting strong elements in a gratifying success.

On the 10th of February, 1881, Mr. Leinbach was married to Miss Rebecca Nance, a daughter of Harvey and Eleanor (Smith) Nance. They have become the parents of five children: Clarence, who is a farmer of Lee county, Illinois, married Clara Kaffman, and they have two children, Mildred and Clarence M. Katie, Henry, John and Calvin are all yet at home.

The parents are consistent and faithful members of the Christian church, and in the work of the church they take an active and helpful interest. Mr. Leinbach's political allegiance is given to the republican party, and he is a public-spirited man, who withholds his aid and cooperation from no movement for the public good. In his business career there has been not a single esoteric phase; on the contrary all has been open and above board, and he merits the success that he has achieved, and enjoys in full measure the confidence of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

THOMAS E. ROBINSON.

Thomas E. Robinson is now living retired in Rock Falls, but for many years was identified with the farming interests of this county, and his labor was intelligently directed, his sound judgment and unfaltering industry bringing to him the success which enables him to enjoy many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life without further recourse to the active duties of business life.

He was born in Coloma township, this county, June 11, 1864, his parents being Thomas and Sarah (Hale) Robinson, the former a native of England and the latter of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The father was born in Lancashire on the 6th of January, 1801, and in the place of his nativity was reared to manhood. He lost his father when very young, and the support of his widowed mother and a brother devolved upon him. In early life he followed the sea, spending three and a half years on one vessel, engaged in commerce, and visited all the principal seaports of the world. He was afterward upon a British man-of-war. The experiences of his life were varied.

Born and reared in England, he had some unusual adventures during his seafaring experience, and after he left the sea he was employed in various ways in his native land until he resolved to seek a home in America. It was about 1844, in company with a cousin, that he crossed the Atlantic to the new world. He first located in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, where he worked in the mines, receiving much better wages than are paid for such service in the old country. Carefully saving his earnings, he was soon able to purchase a lot in Pittston, upon which he erected a good residence. He followed mining for seven or eight years, and during that time was married.

It was on New Year's day of 1848 that Thomas Robinson was joined in wedlock to Miss Sarah Hale, a native of Pittsburg, and a sister of Mrs. L. L. Emmons. They remained in Pennsylvania until after the birth of their two eldest sons, when, attracted by the opportunities of the middle west, Mr. Robinson brought his family to Illinois, settling in Coloma township, Whiteside county, where he joined his brother-in-law, Mr. Emmons. He found here a district largely undeveloped and unimproved. The railroads had not yet been built and Whiteside county seemed far from any commercial center of importance, so that the early settlers had to depend largely upon what they could raise and produce. Mr. Robinson first purchased forty acres of land, upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He also bought a little school house, which he moved onto his farm and converted into a dwelling. Thus, having established a home for his family, he at once began the cultivation of his place, and with characteristic energy carried forward the work of tilling the soil until he had brought his farm under a high state of cultivation. In the early days he had to haul his grain to Chicago with ox teams. It was a slow and tedious process, but there was no nearer market. After a time, however, railroads were built, so that it was less difficult to place the crops on sale at the centers of trade. As he prospered in his undertakings, Mr. Robinson purchased an adjoining tract of land of forty acres, and also about forty acres in Montmorency township. As the years passed he converted the once wild land into one of the most desirable and attractive farms of its size in the locality. In addition to the tilling of the soil he also gave considerable attention to the raising of horses, cattle and hogs, and at one time made a sale of hogs to the amount of twelve hundred and thirty-eight dollars. He also invested in Kansas land, and until within a short time of his death owned three quarter sections in Grove and Dodge counties in addition to his farm in this county.

In 1886 he left his farm and removed to Rock Falls, where his remaining days were passed in honorable retirement, save for the supervision which he gave to his invested interests. He reached the remarkable old age of one hundred years, one month and seventeen days, and that he retained his mental and physical faculties largely unimpaired during the evening of life is indicated by the fact that he transacted business up to within twenty days of his demise. He was the owner of a number of residences in Rock Falls and derived from this property, as well as his farms, a substantial and gratifying income. Mrs. Robinson passed away ten years prior to the death of her husband, her death occurring February 13, 1895, when she was seventy

years of age. Her remains were interred in Rock Falls cemetery, where a neat monument now marks her last resting place. They were among the most honored and worthy pioneer people of the county, being uniformly esteemed by reason of their many sterling traits of character. Both Mr. and Mrs. Robinson were Methodists in religious faith, although the former was reared in the faith of the Episcopal church. He became a stalwart advocate of democratic principles, for he believed their adoption would best concern the public welfare, yet he never sought nor desired office, nor took an active part in politics aside from voting. He was recognized as a man of marked business ability and achieved most creditable success by reason of his sound judgment in business affairs, his perseverance and his unwearied industry. He was, moreover, a man of sterling character and worth, of undoubted commercial integrity and of high ideals, who enjoyed in unqualified degree the respect and esteem of all with whom he was associated.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson was blessed with eight children, five sons and three daughters: Charles, who is now living at Belgrade, Nebraska; John L., of Rock Falls; William P., also a resident of Belgrade; Rose, the deceased wife of Marshall Oakley; Carrie, the wife of Paul Jones, of Fresno, California; Anna; Thomas E.; and James, deceased.

In taking up the personal history of Thomas E. Robinson, we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in this part of the state, being a representative of an old pioneer family. He was reared as a farm boy in Coloma township, early taking his place in the fields to assist in the plowing, planting and harvesting. The district schools afforded him his educational privileges, and when not busy with his text-books he gave his assistance to his father in the development and improvement of the home farm until he had attained his majority. Mr. Robinson was married at Nelson, Illinois, and then carried on farming on his own account until 1890, when, on account of his wife's ill health, he removed to Rock Falls, where he has since made his home.

It was on the 5th of November, 1884, that Mr. Robinson was united in marriage to Miss Lamina J. Stone, of Nelson, this state, a daughter of Burrell and Isabel (McNeil) Stone. There were two children of this marriage—Isabel, who died at the age of thirteen months and twenty-two days; and George Lester, who is now living with his mother in Florida. On the 23d of May, 1899, Mr. Robinson was again married, his second union being with Miss Rose Carr, of Nevada, Iowa, and they have two children: Revoe and Opai.

Mrs. Robinson's parents, Benjamin and Abigail (Poole) Carr, are natives of Iowa, and still live in Nevada, that state, where her father is engaged in business as a mason and contractor. He is a son of Ananias and Jane (Franklin) Carr, also residents of Nevada, Iowa, their other children being William Henry, now deceased; Jesse Edward; Daniel Brimmerman, deceased; Benoni Fortner; Phebe Ellen, deceased; Sarah Jane; and Mary Elizabeth. The father of this family has one son by a former marriage, James Nathan Carr, and the mother has also been married twice, her first husband being John Manifee, by whom she has one son, George Manifee. Her parents were

Thomas and Polly Franklin. Ananias Carr is a son of Nathan and Sallie (Willie) Carr. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Rose Robinson was John Presley Poole, who followed the occupation of farming. He married Ann Jordan and died at the age of eighty-one years, while his wife passed away at the age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of eleven children, six of whom are now living: Elza, a resident of Nevada, Iowa; John, whose home is in California; Mary, the wife of William Kerr, of Nevada, Iowa; George, a resident of Superior, Nebraska; Mrs. Abigail Carr, the mother of Mrs. Robinson; and Henry, of Nelson, Nebraska. Another member of the family reached mature years—Louisa, who became the wife of George Hyden and died, leaving a family. The other children died in early life. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Carr were born four children, three daughters and a son: Rose, now Mrs. Robinson; Myrtle, the wife of John Ost, of Rock Falls; Laura, the wife of J. H. Anderson, a practicing lawyer of Des Moines, Iowa; and Frankie, who died at the age of eight years.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and are interested in its work and the extension of its influence. Politically Mr. Robinson is a republican. For the past eighteen years he has lived in Rock Falls, where he has valuable property holdings, including ten good residences and lots, and also two vacant lots. From his property he derives a good income that enables him to live retired. In former years he was very active in agricultural lines, and his carefully directed labors brought to him the success which is now his, making him one of the men of affluence of the community. The Robinson family has been a prominent one in the county from pioneer times, and, like his father, Mr. Robinson commands the respect and good will of all who know him.

CHARLES C. McMAHON.

Charles C. McMahon, a member of the Whiteside county bar and now city attorney of Fulton, was born in Charlottetown on Prince Edward Island in the gulf of St. Lawrence, June 20, 1860. He is a son of Francis and Rosa McAvoy McMahon, both of whom were natives of the north of Ireland but prior to their marriage came with their respective families to the new world, settling on Prince Edward Island. The year 1869 witnessed their arrival in Fulton. Francis McMahon was a malster but following his removal to Whiteside county turned his attention to farming. He rented land in Fulton township, where he engaged in farming from 1875 until 1900, when he retired from active business life. He is now deceased and his wife passed away in February, 1905. For many years he was numbered among the respected and worthy residents of his community and though he never sought to figure prominently in public life his activity and reliability in business made him numbered among the substantial citizens. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McMahon were born the following children: Ellen, the wife of N. J. Oaks, of Clinton, Iowa; Annie, the wife of Austin Bell, of Fulton;

James, deceased; Charles C., of this review; Francis, of Fenton township, Whiteside county; Catherine, who is the wife of James McDonald and resides in Portland, Oregon; John, of St. Louis, Missouri; Irene D., the wife of H. L. Snyder, of Fulton; and Mary and Maggie, who died in childhood.

Charles C. McMahon acquired his more specifically literary education by pursuing the public-school course on Prince Edward Island and in Lyons, Iowa. He also attended school in Fulton township, this county, and afterward qualified for the practice of his chosen profession as a student in the Northern Illinois College of Fulton. There he finished his course in 1888 and in June of that year was admitted to the bar. He then associated himself for practice with James De Witt Andrews, with whom he was connected for a year and in 1890 he opened his present office, where he has since been successfully engaged in the practice of law, having a large and distinctly representative clientage that has connected him with much important litigation tried in the courts of the district. He prepares his cases with great thoroughness and care, presents his points with clearness and force and is rarely, if ever, at fault in applying a legal principle to any phase of the case at issue. Previous to his admission to the bar he was tax collector of the township and in 1894 was elected city attorney, a position he has continuously held to the present time.

On the 1st of January, 1907, Mr. McMahon was married to Miss Bertha Fischer, of Fulton, a daughter of Herman and Mary (King) Fischer, the father a native of Germany and the mother of Illinois. Mr. Fischer was brought to America by his parents at the age of eight years, the family home being established in Fulton among the earliest residents of this part of the state.

Mr. McMahon gives his political allegiance to the democracy and fraternally is connected with the Mystic Workers and the Modern Woodmen. He has made a deep impress upon the bar of Whiteside county, both for legal ability of a high order and for the individuality of a personal character which impresses itself upon a community. An excellent presence, an earnest manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law and the ability to accurately apply its principles make him an effective and successful advocate in the courts.

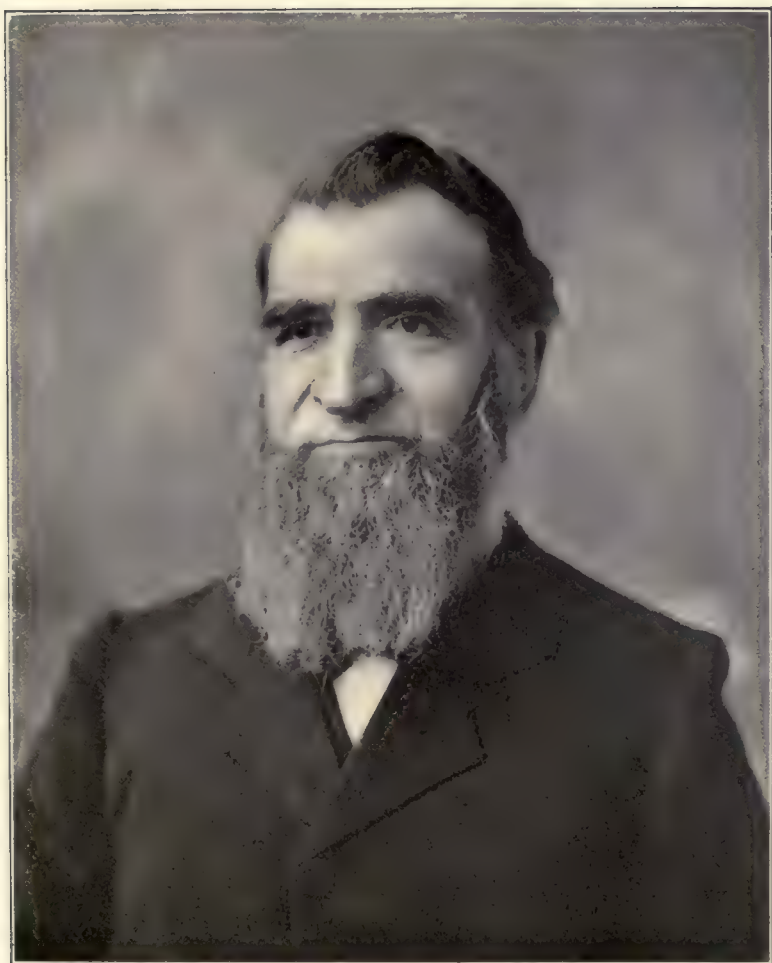
JACOB FELDMAN.

Jacob Feldman, one of the native sons of Morrison, born in 1859, passed away April 3, 1891. His father, Jacob Feldman, Sr., a native of Germany, died in March, 1895, at the age of seventy-two years. He came to Morrison in the '50s and for many years was actively identified with its business interests as proprietor of a restaurant. In his later years he lived retired, enjoying well-earned rest from the active cares of business. His religious faith was that of the Lutheran church and in his fraternal relations he was an Odd Fellow. At the time of the Civil war he was drafted for military

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JACOB FELDMAN. SR.

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service, but did not go to the front on account of physical disability, which incapacitated him for active field duty. His political allegiance was given to the republican party. In early manhood he married Christina Swartz, who was born in Germany and survived her husband for a number of years, passing away in 1904, at the age of seventy-five. She, too, was a member of the Lutheran church and a lady of many estimable traits of character. The family numbered but two children and the younger died in infancy.

Jacob Feldman, reared in his native city, pursued his early education in the schools of Morrison and afterward attended a German school at West Chicago. On putting aside his text-books he entered his father's restaurant and was associated with him in business until his death. He had a wide acquaintance in the city where his entire life was passed and where his many good qualities won for him favorable regard and popularity. In business he was energetic and thoroughly reliable and was therefore regarded as a worthy representative of the commercial interests of Morrison.

In 1882 Mr. Feldman was married to Miss Carrie Schoch, who was born in Geneva; Kane county, Illinois, in 1860, a daughter of Christian and Magdalena Schoch, the former a farmer by occupation. Both died during the infancy of their daughter, who was adopted by her uncle, Martin Schoch. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Feldman were born four children: Florence, who was born in 1884 and died in infancy; Alonzo J., who was born in 1886 and is a stenographer in Chicago; Elsie, born in 1888 and now at home; and Ella May, born in 1890 and a student in the public schools.

Mr. Feldman owned a fine home and business block in Morrison in addition to his restaurant interests. Fraternally he was well known, being affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Odd Fellows and the Masons. He attained the Knight Templar degree in the latter and the funeral services were conducted by the commandery of Sterling. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church, while his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church. The fact that many of his staunchest friends were those who knew him from his boyhood, indicates that his life was honorable and upright and that he justly merited the confidence and good will of those with whom he was associated. His death was the occasion of deep regret, not only to his family but to many of Morrison's residents who had learned to esteem and honor him.

J. L. CRAWFORD.

J. L. Crawford, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, was the founder of Crawford Brothers' general store at the corner of First avenue and Third street, Sterling, in the year, 1858. This store was built by Thomas Robinson, president of the Winnebago National Bank at Rockford, Illinois, under the supervision of James L. Crawford. The two brothers, James L. and David M. Crawford, were widely known and did an extensive and successful business with the farming community. They occupied the second

room in the frame building above mentioned. They were highly esteemed for their integrity of character and honest business dealing. Both men have long since passed away, but their memory is still fresh and dear to many of the old settlers who are yet living.

JAMES COBORNE HUBBART.

James Coborne Hubbard, who for many years might well have been termed the first unofficial resident of Erie, so prominent was he in the upbuilding and development of the village, passed away May 18, 1886, and his death was the occasion of the most deep and widespread regret, for all who knew him had come to esteem and honor him and to appreciate what he did for the public welfare. He was born in Broome county, New York, October 12, 1822, a son of Elisha and Irena (Coborne) Hubbard, who were likewise natives of the east. Representatives of both the Coborne and Hubbard families settled here in pioneer times before the land had come into market. The father of our subject was a native of Morris county, New Jersey, and in early boyhood removed to the state of New York, where he resided until after his marriage. Attracted by the opportunities of this section of the country, which was then "the far west," he came to Illinois in February, 1838, and established his home in Union Grove township. He thus became identified with agricultural interests in Whiteside county, where both he and his wife continued to reside until they were called to their final rest. Their family numbered eight children, of whom James C. Hubbard was the second in order of birth. The family suffered many hardships and privations incident to pioneer life during their early residence in this part of the state. They had left New York in the spring of 1837, journeying westward by team. On reaching Mottville, Michigan, however, their funds became exhausted and they were compelled to remain in that town during the summer and succeeding winter. In the following February they again started for Whiteside county, reaching their destination about the 25th of that month. The Coborne family had already come to this county, having arrived in July, 1837, and had made a clearing for Elisha Hubbard of one hundred and sixty acres of land located on sections 31 and 32, Union Grove township. Upon this claim Mr. Hubbard erected a log cabin, and in August of that year took possession of his new home. In May of the following year he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 12th of that month. The father survived only until the 8th of March, 1841. The children were all in their minority, and Benjamin Coborne was appointed as administrator of the estate.

James C. Hubbard was a youth of sixteen years when the family arrived in Whiteside county. Upon his father's death, which occurred when the son was nineteen years of age, he went to the Wisconsin pineries, where he remained for a year. Upon his return he found that another party had located on the claim which his father had secured, and in 1845 he and his brother, Simpson, purchased this claim, then comprising two hundred acres

of land. They took up their abode thereon and began the development and improvement of the farm, their sister, Irena, acting as their housekeeper. On the 1st of January, 1852, Simpson Hubbard was married and brought his wife to the claim, and in 1855 James C. Hubbard was married. He then sold his interest in the original farm to his brother, and purchased the farm which became his place of residence, and which had formerly belonged to his wife's parents.

It was on the 14th of October, 1855, that Mr. Hubbard wedded Miss Maria L. Putney, who was born in Adams, Massachusetts, October 10, 1834, and was brought to this county by her parents in 1837, soon after the Indians had been driven away by the Black Hawk war. She was a daughter of Arthur and Lucinda (Wood) Putney, both natives of the old Bay State. Her father was the owner of a line of stages operating between Adams, Massachusetts, and Troy, New York, and on removing westward he disposed of his business interests there, journeying by way of the water route to Michigan. For a brief period he visited with relatives in Adrian and there bought teams, after which he drove across the country to Whiteside county, Illinois, settling in Erie township. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, for when this was still a pioneer district he died of the fever which was so prevalent in the new country in 1844. His widow afterward married again and lived upon the old homestead until her death. Their daughter, Mrs. Hubbard, was the only one of three children who reached mature years, the other two dying in infancy.

As stated, following his marriage Mr. Hubbard purchased the farm which had previously belonged to his wife's parents. His first investment in this property made him owner of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he afterward added from time to time until his possessions included over five hundred acres of valuable farm land in this county. Upon it he erected three residences, four barns and other outbuildings, planted an orchard and made other substantial modern improvements. He usually kept about one hundred head of cattle, making a specialty of graded shorthorns, and he also kept from thirty to forty head of cows for dairy purposes. He likewise raised high grade horses and a large number of hogs and his live-stock interests were an important branch of his business, while his cultivation of crops also brought him gratifying success year by year. In addition to his valuable home property of over five hundred acres he also owned two hundred acres of land in connection with Arthur McLean, this tract being timber and pasture land in Erie township.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard were born three children: Mary I., the wife of Dr. Eugene Burrige, of Palestine, Illinois; Ella, the wife of William H. James, living on the old homestead in Erie township; and James P., also of Erie.

The conditions of life in this county at the time of Mrs. Hubbard's arrival here were vastly different from those of the present day. Many desperadoes and horse thieves infested this part of the state and the settlers had to organize for protection against these lawless characters. Game of all kinds was plentiful and furnished many a meal for the settlers, venison,

turkey, and prairie chicken being frequent dishes on the pioneer board. In those early days there was only one house upon the present site of the town of Erie and there were no trees in the locality. All grain had to be hauled to Galena and Chicago with ox-teams and travel was done by private conveyance. Through the influence of Mrs. Hubbard's father's however, a line of stages was established from Chicago to Rock Island on the north side of the river.

When Mr. Hubbard was about twenty years old he returned to New York, where he remained for two or three years. He then again came to this county and owned the Delhi place until he was married, when, as stated, he removed to the farm formerly owned by his father-in-law, which is now the property of his widow. He continued to make his home there until his demise and figured prominently for many years as one of the extensive, enterprising and successful agriculturists of the county. He also built the cheese factory which is now conducted as a creamery, employing a man to conduct this. He likewise built the first grist mill in Erie and it is still in operation. For a number of years he conducted a general mercantile store in Erie and at one time was owner of all of the lots on the east side of Main street. His activity and enterprise made him one of the foremost citizens of the village, his labors contributing in large measure to its growth and progress as the years passed. Without invidious distinction he might well have been designated as the foremost resident of Erie through a number of years. His early political allegiance was given to the democracy but his last votes were cast in support of the prohibition party. He took an active part in good roads and served as road commissioner. Fraternally he was a Master Mason and was an active, prominent and helpful member of the Baptist church, his entire life being in harmony with his professions as a believer in Christian religion. He was never known to take advantage of another in a business transaction but on the contrary was always straightforward and honorable and to his family left not only a valuable estate but also the priceless heritage of an untarnished name.

JOHN JOSEPH McCUE.

John Joseph McCue, who owns and operates a valuable and up-to-date farming property of one hundred and sixty acres on section 36, Hopkins township, was born in this township on the 5th of July, 1868, a son of James and Margaret (Doyle) McCue. The grandparents were Thomas and Honora (Ternon) McCue, who lived and died in Ireland.

James McCue, the father of our subject, was born in the parish of Bala-nakiin, County Galway, Ireland, September 24, 1834, and in November, 1854, when a young man of twenty years, emigrated to America, locating in Whiteside county. He possessed no financial resources with which to take up the battle of life in a new country, but his resolute spirit, willing hands and strong physical manhood proved to be ample equipment. For the first six or seven years after his arrival in this county he was employed as a

farm hand, but in 1859 rented a tract of land, being successfully engaged in its cultivation for about three years. At the end of that time, by reason of the exercise of careful economy and unremitting diligence, he had succeeded in accumulating capital sufficient to enable him to purchase eighty acres of land, which he brought under a high state of cultivation, and which eventually became the old homestead. As the years passed he added to his holdings from time to time, until he is now the owner of nine hundred and seventy-three acres of rich and productive land in Whiteside county, and is widely recognized as one of its most successful and enterprising citizens. About 1898 he removed to the place where he now resides, on section 19, Hopkins township, having here a beautiful, modern home, and being surrounded by all of the comforts and many of the luxuries that go to make life worth living.

On the 1st of March, 1859, Thomas McCue had been married at Dixon, Lee county, Illinois, to Miss Margaret Doyle, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Father Kinady, C. P. Mrs. McCue was a native of Ireland and a daughter of James and Ellen (Kirk) Doyle, in whose family were the following children: Mary, Margaret, John, Patrick, Catherine, Sarah and Ellen. In the McCue family were six children: William C., who lives on the old homestead in Hopkins township; James E., also a resident of that township; Mary, who wedded James S. Quinn, of Chicago, and died about 1895; Thomas E., a resident of Sterling township; John J., of this review; and Edward, who died when about five years old. Mr. McCue has given each of his children a good start in life. He is now spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil and, having lived in this county for more than a half century, is widely and favorably known as one of its representative and influential residents.

John Joseph McCue acquired his education in the common schools and assisted his father in the operation of the home farm until several years after he had attained his majority, when he was married and established a home of his own on section 36, Hopkins township. His farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres, and is one of the best improved properties in the county, being equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. The drive to the residence is entered through an automatic swing gate of the latest device, and the cement walks and many other modern improvements give evidence of the enterprise and progressive spirit of the owner. The fields annually return golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon them, and he has long been recognized as one of the wide-awake and prosperous agriculturists of his community.

On the 12th of October, 1898, Mr. McCue was united in marriage to Miss Anna C. Gronis, a daughter of Charles and Bridget (McDermott) Gronis, further mention of whom is made on another page of this work. Unto our subject and his wife have been born six children, five of whom are now living: Mary Frances, Jennie Loretta, John Joseph, Charles Joseph and Leo.

In his political views Mr. McCue is a democrat, while the religious faith of the family is indicated by their membership in the Catholic church. Hav-

ing spent his entire life in this county, Mr. McCue is well known, and has gained the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been associated, for his life has ever been upright and honorable in all relations, and he is now surrounded by many comforts, a beautiful home and a family of bright and interesting children.

C. H. ATWOOD.

The spirit of enterprise and progress which is dominant in the middle west and has led to the rapid upbuilding of this section of the country is manifest in the life of C. H. Atwood, a leading business man and representative citizen of Sterling, where he is successfully conducting an extensive grocery and meat market. The success he has achieved—and it is most creditable—is due entirely to his well directed labors, his commendable ambition and strong purpose and perhaps no history given in this volume indicates more clearly the value and true rewards of character and of unwearied diligence.

Mr. Atwood was born in Ogle county, Illinois, near Stillman Valley, February 6, 1863, his parents being Patten and Hannah (McPherson) Atwood, both of whom were natives of Canada. Their family numbered but three children, the eldest being Ira, a resident of Kansas; and the youngest, Edward Atwood, of Rockford, Illinois. The father was a farmer by occupation and on coming to the United States settled in Ogle county at an early day, there following general agricultural pursuits. After the outbreak of the Civil war he espoused the cause of the Union and became a member of a regiment of Illinois volunteer infantry. He laid down his life on the altar of his country, dying in a hospital in Buffalo, New York. His wife still survives him and now makes her home in Rockford. She is a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist church, to which Mr. Atwood also belonged.

C. H. Atwood was only two and a half years old when he became a resident of Whiteside county. Here he was reared by James Scoville in Geneseo township and his education was acquired in the district schools and in the business college of Rockford. He afterward took up his abode in Sterling, where he was connected with various business interests. At length he began clerking in the grocery store which he now owns, entering this establishment as an employe in 1882. When the firm by whom he was employed closed out their business Mr. Atwood became the successor in the enterprise in partnership with L. L. Johnson and one year later bought out Mr. Johnson's interest, since which time he has conducted the business alone. He has gradually developed a trade of mammoth proportions, employs a number of clerks and does a most excellent business.

On the 20th of November, 1886, Mr. Atwood was married to Miss Clara L. McCallister, a daughter of H. W. and Annie (Werntz) McCallister. They now have one daughter, Lura, and the family residence is at No. 309 West Eleventh street, where Mr. Atwood built an attractive home in 1906.

The parents are members of the Presbyterian church, in which Mr. Atwood is serving as treasurer. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp, to the Improved Order of Redmen, to the Knights of Pythias and to the Dramatic Order of the Knights of Khorassan. He is also captain of the Uniformed Rank of the Knights of Pythias and is prominent among his brethren of these fraternities. His strongly marked traits of character are his close application, his earnest purpose and his unwearied diligence. He early came to a realization of the fact that there is no royal road to wealth and he resolved to win success if it could be done by honorable, persistent effort. The result is well known to all his fellow townsmen and his position in the business circles of Sterling is a most enviable one.

WILHELM HINRICHS.

The agricultural interests of Mount Pleasant township find a worthy representative in Wilhelm Hinrichs, who is located on the southeast quarter of section 13, owning here one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is known as the old P. C. Stone farm. He also has one hundred and forty-nine acres in Hopkins township, and deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, his success being due to his well-directed and persistent efforts. A native of Germany, he was born in Oldenburg, August 4, 1839, his parents being M. F. and Anna (Johnson) Hinrichs, both of whom died in Germany, where they were respected farming people. Their family numbered four children. Henry, the eldest, died in Germany, but two of his sons are in America—Max, who is successfully following farming in the state of Washington, and Robert, who is a bookkeeper in British Columbia. Wilhelm, of this review, is the second son of the family. Wilhelmina died unmarried. Henrietta is the wife of John Siebles, a resident farmer of Germany.

Wilhelm Hinrichs was reared in the land of his birth, and is indebted to its public school system for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. In 1866 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and worked for several months for Charles Ward. He was practically empty-handed when he arrived in America, but he possessed a resolute spirit and strong determination, and early realized the fact that all honorable success depends upon close application and unremitting effort. After remaining with Mr. Ward for several months he was employed by a farmer near Dixon for two years, and in the meantime attended school to some extent in order to acquire a knowledge of the English language. He next went to Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, where he rented a farm for several years. He was successful in his agricultural interests, and finally acquired capital sufficient to enable him to purchase the farm upon which he now resides. He bought this property in 1880, paying for it the sum of fifty-seven and a half dollars per acre, which was the highest price paid for land in this locality up to that time. He secured one hundred and sixty acres, which constitutes his present place of residence, and here he has followed general farming, raising both grain and

stock. In 1895 he bought the farm just across the road, for which he paid sixty dollars per acre, and he has since made many improvements upon that place. In 1892 he built his present comfortable and commodious residence, also has good substantial barns and outbuildings and uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields. He has added to his place many modern accessories and conveniences and his farm is now an attractive feature of the landscape.

In 1869 Mr. Hinrichs was married to Miss Eliese Loss, who was born February 23, 1849, in the same section of Germany in which the birth of her husband occurred. Her parents were Henry and A. M. (Johnson) Loss, and the former was a tailor by trade. They came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1869, settling in Hopkins township, where they lived until called to their final rest. The father died in 1901, at the age of eighty-four years, while the mother passed away in 1883, at the age of sixty-five years. Mrs. Hinrichs has one sister, Minnie, who became the wife of Henry Hayen, a farmer residing in Genesee township, this county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hinrichs were born eight children, of whom five are yet living. Martin, born in 1871, resides near his father in Hopkins township, and married Miss Lydia Gelken. Hugo, who was born in October, 1872, and resides near his father's place in Mount Pleasant township, married Hannah Minos, whose people reside in Sterling. They have three children—Lawrence, Elmer and Louisa. Nettie, born July 18, 1877, is at home. Adolph died when nearly seven years of age. Willie died at the age of eleven years. Ernest, born March 17, 1885, assists his father in carrying on the home place. Alma, born April 30, 1890, is a student in the high school. One child died in infancy. Mr. Hinrichs votes with the republican party and believes thoroughly in its principles and policy, but is not an office seeker. He belongs to the German Lutheran church, of which his wife is also a member, and in the community they are held in high esteem. Mr. Hinrichs deserves much credit for his success in the business world. Coming to the United States with very limited means, he knew that if he would win prosperity it must be gained through much earnest and self-denying effort. He has put forth every effort to achieve prosperity, and as the years have gone by has made judicious investments and is now in possession of two valuable farms which annually return to him a gratifying income.

RUBIN HENRY RAMSDELL.

Rubin Henry Ramsdell is a contractor and mason of Sterling, whose labors have been an element in the substantial improvement of the city. Moreover, his life record proves that success is not a matter of genius as held by some, but is the outcome of clear judgment, experience and unfaltering diligence for upon these qualities Mr. Ramsdell has builded his present prosperity.



MR. AND MRS. R. T. RAMDELL

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He was born in Rockford, Winnebago county, Illinois, October 23, 1855, being one of the four children of Winslow and Hannah (Knight) Ramsdell. His paternal grandfather, Job Ramsdell, was a native of Maine and died in that state when well advanced in years. There were two brothers who came from England at an early day and settled in the Pine Tree state, thus founding the family in the new world. The maternal grandfather of R. H. Ramsdell was Peter Knight, also a native of Maine and a farmer by occupation. He served as a soldier in the war of 1812, was given a land warrant for his services and came west at an early day and with his warrant secured a claim in Winnebago county, Illinois, near Rockford, where he spent his remaining days, passing away at a very advanced age. He was twice married and his first wife, the grandmother of Mr. Ramsdell, died in early womanhood. Their children were Sylvia, Hannah, Daniel, and William. After losing his first wife Peter Knight wedded Miss King, and to them were born five children: Almeda, Charles, Sarah, Ann, and Elzura.

The Ramsdell and Knight families became connected through the marriage of Winslow Ramsdell and Hannah Knight, both of whom were natives of Maine and lived at Portland. The father was a ship carpenter in the east. In 1841 he removed westward to Rockford, Illinois, and built the second house in South Rockford, when it was known as Forest City. He enlisted in 1861 for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Company E, Fifty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Boyd, but died October 12, 1862, aged forty-eight years. His wife survived him until April, 1892, and passed away at the age of seventy-six years. Of their family of three sons and a daughter, Nathaniel and Lucy are both deceased, the latter having been the wife of Albert Beecher. Nathaniel married Laila Kemp. The two surviving sons, Daniel and Rubin, are both residents of Sterling. Daniel married Louisa Norton.

Spending his boyhood days in Rockford, Rubin H. Ramsdell was a student in the public schools and after acquiring a good English education secured employment in a brickyard, where he learned the brick-maker's trade. This was the initial step which led to his present connection with the building interests of the city. Removing to Sterling in 1871, he engaged in the manufacture of brick here for about nineteen years and in the meantime began contracting. He has supplied brick for most of the large buildings of the city. He now has a liberal patronage, and as a contractor and mason his labors have been an important element in the adornment as well as the substantial improvement of Sterling.

On the 27th of October, 1880, Mr. Ramsdell was married to Miss Barbara Smith, a daughter of Christian and Barbara (Reichenbach) Smith, who were natives of Wittenburg, Germany, and on coming to America settled in Pennsylvania, where they were married. They arrived in Illinois in 1851, taking up their abode in Sterling, and Mr. Smith followed farming, although he was a tailor by trade. He rode from Sterling to Morrison on horseback to get his naturalization papers to enable him to vote for Abraham Lincoln. He was twice married, his first union being with Annie Pfeiffer, who died leaving three children, while they were still residents of

Germany. The father afterward started for America with his little family, but one child died on the voyage and was buried at sea. The others are Christ and Charles Smith. By his second marriage, to Barbara Reichenbach, Mr. Smith had one son and five daughters, namely: Mary, the wife of Arnold Mulford; Frederick; Barbara, now Mrs. Ramsdell; Sophia, the wife of William Mulford; Louisa, wife of G. W. Rubright; Lilly, the wife of John Coleman, of Chicago. The father died in December, 1900, when eighty-seven years of age, his birth having occurred September 19, 1813. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Ramsdell, died in 1870, at the age of forty-four years.

Mrs. Ramsdell was born in Rock Falls, Whiteside county, Illinois, June 3, 1861, and was educated in the Central school in Sterling. By her marriage she has become the mother of eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom Hannah, Lucy, Thomas and Lester are still living, while four died in early childhood. Hannah is now the wife of John F. Shuler, on the Pine Row farm in Montmorency township, while Lucy is an art student.

The parents are members of St. John's Lutheran church and Mr. Ramsdell belongs to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and to the Knights of the Globe. Politically he is a republican and has served as school director, but otherwise has held no public offices. He owns a beautiful brick residence at the corner of Broadway and Fourth streets, together with several other residence properties in Sterling and Rock Falls, from which he derives a gratifying income, having placed his money in the safest of all investments—real estate. His time and energies, however, have largely been given to industrial interests. His business has met competition in a rivalry of merit rather than in a war of prices. He has put a premium on high-grade work by employing high-grade workmen and paying them their legitimate share of the profits which their talents have brought to the business. He has aimed at high standards in his service to the public and in all of his business relations is above reproach.

JOHN PERSON.

John Person, who now enjoys well earned rest from the cares of an active business life by reason of his well directed energy and enterprise in former years, is living retired in a commodious and attractive residence at No. 207 East Seventh street, in Rock Falls. He was born in Skone, Sweden, September 27, 1835, his parents being Per and Ida (Hogan) Person, also natives of that country. The father followed farming as a life work and passed away in the land of his birth at a very advanced age, his wife surviving him for some years. Their family numbered two sons: John, of this review; and Per, who lives on the old homestead in Sweden.

John Person acquired his education in the schools of his native land and remained on the home farm until he had attained the age of twenty-eight years, when, in the year 1863, he crossed the briny deep to America, having heard many favorable reports concerning the advantages and opportunities

offered in the new world. He first took up his abode in De Kalb county, Illinois, where he was employed at farm labor by the month. Toward the close of the Civil war he located in Nashville, Tennessee, and worked for the government as a carpenter, being engaged in building houses for the soldiers.

In 1869 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and bought a farm of eighty acres in Hume and Tampico townships, the residence being situated in Hume, and the outbuildings in Tampico township. At the time he purchased the property it was a tract of wild prairie land, but as the years have gone by he has brought it under a high state of cultivation and has added many improvements in the shape of buildings, fences, etc. He also bought more land from time to time, and now has two hundred acres of productive and arable farming property, which returns to him a good income. In October, 1905, he retired from active agricultural pursuits, and removed to Rock Falls, where he has since lived in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil, having rented the farm to his youngest son, who is now successfully engaged in its operation. Mr. Person is one of the pioneer settlers who bore an active part in the work of early development and improvement here, and he is one of the public-spirited and enterprising citizens of the county, giving his support to many measures calculated to prove of general good.

On the 2d of November, 1869, Mr. Person was united in marriage to Miss Lena Olsen, a daughter of John and Bertha (Danielson) Olsen, and a granddaughter of Ole and Eliza Nelson. Her grandparents on the maternal side were Daniel and Eliza Person, the latter living to be more than ninety years of age. The parents of Mrs. Person were natives of Sweden, and lived in that country until eight years after their marriage, when the father sold their home there for two years. On the expiration of that period they removed to Tampico township, Whiteside county, purchasing eighty acres of the farm which he had been operating and crossed the Atlantic to America. Mr. and Mrs. John Olsen first located near Dixon, Illinois, in 1853, and made land. The father first built a sod house which contained one door and one window, the roof being made by putting slough grass on poles. It was covered with sod and never leaked, but eventually the mice got into it and became quite troublesome, as there were no cats to be had. This sod house was considered quite a curiosity and neighbors came for several miles to see it. Mr. and Mrs. Olsen and their family lived in that primitive structure for three years, and then the father built a log house, which he covered with grass and sod. It was later unroofed by a tornado, and he subsequently put a shingle roof on the log cabin. Later he erected a fine modern residence, and as time went on kept adding to his landed possessions until at the time of his death he had seven eighty-acre tracts of rich and productive land. His demise occurred February 11, 1888, at the age of sixty-nine years and eleven months, while his wife passed away September 2, 1901, when seventy-nine years of age. They were widely recognized as worthy pioneer settlers of Whiteside county, and gained a large number of friends by reason of their genuine personal worth and upright lives. They had a family of eight children, six of whom grew to maturity: Mrs. Lena Person; Oliver D. and Andrew Olsen, of Tampico township; Joseph, who resides in Rock Falls;

Augustus, a Lutheran preacher of Winnepeg, Canada; John W., who lives on the old homestead; and two who died in infancy.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. John Person have been born four sons. William Henry, who makes his home in Montmorency township, married Ida Elmen-dorf, and has three children: Henry W., Pansy and Melvin. Carl Oscar, of Rock Falls, wedded Ella Elmendorf. Victor Emanuel, who also resides in Montmorency township, married Martha Murray, and they have three children: Lena Lucile, Kenneth and Bernice. Joshua Augustus operates the home farm, and was united in marriage to Miss Flora Murphy. All the sons of John Person were raised to agricultural pursuits, and are respected and enterprising residents of their respective communities.

In his political views the subject of this review is a republican, giving unflinching support to the party. Both he and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are widely and favorably known, for they have lived in Whiteside county for almost forty years, and throughout that entire period their lives have ever been guided by honorable and lofty principles. Coming to America in young manhood, Mr. Person here found the opportunities which he sought, and through their careful utilization he gained the measure of success that now classes him with the representative and prosperous residents of the county and enables him to spend the evening of life amid all of the comforts and many of the luxuries which a modern civilization affords.

SEBASTIAN AUGUST SCHMOEGER.

Sebastian August Schmoeger is now living retired in Sterling, and his rest is well merited, for through thirty-nine years he was actively connected with commercial interests here. Coming to America from Germany, his native land, at the age of sixteen years, he afterward attended high school to acquaint himself with the English language and promote his general knowledge. While thus engaged he provided for his own support by labor during the day, and in that way displayed the elemental strength of his character, whereon he has builded his success.

He was born in Saxony, near Meiningen, November 14, 1850. His paternal grandfather, John Schmoeger, was a butcher by trade, and followed that pursuit in Germany. Both he and his wife, Mrs. Helen Schmoeger, lived to an advanced age. They reared a small family, including Sebastian Schmoeger, Sr., who was a native of Germany, and became a butcher of Meiningen, where for many years he carried on business, and there passed away in 1894, at the age of seventy-five years. He married Anna Catherine Siemon, also a native of that country and a daughter of Johan Adam Siemon. Her father was a farmer by occupation and both he and his wife also reached advanced years. Their daughter, Mrs. Schmoeger, passed away in 1892, at the age of seventy-two years. Both the parents of our subject are members of the Lutheran church. Their family numbered four children, three sons

and a daughter: Helen Magdalena, the wife of Frederick Weh, who is living near Meiningen, Germany; Frederick Adam, who has remained in the fatherland; Sebastian A., of this review; and Frederick August, deceased.

Sebastian A. Schmoeger remained in Germany until about sixteen years of age, and during that time acquired a common school education. In 1863 he came to the United States, settling in Peru, Illinois, where he attended night school, and in the daytime followed the butcher's trade. He there remained for two years, and through his diligence and careful expenditure he was enabled to embark in business on his own account, when he removed to Sterling in 1868. Here he opened a market, which he conducted with growing success until the 1st of October, 1907, a period of thirty-nine years. As a business man he was thoroughly reliable, as well as energetic, and the confidence which he merited gained for him a very desirable patronage and made his success most gratifying. While he has retired from commercial pursuits, he is still a director and stockholder in the First National Bank.

On the 24th of January, 1874, Mr. Schmoeger was married to Miss Anna K. Salzmänn, a daughter of Andreas and Anna Martha (Schuettrumpf) Salzmänn. Her parents were natives of Hesse-Cassel, Germany, and in their family were four sons and a daughter, but the sons are all now deceased, leaving Mrs. Schmoeger as the only surviving member of the family. Mr. Salzmänn died in Germany at the age of fifty-six years. His widow afterward came to America on a visit and passed away in 1893, at the age of seventy-four years, her death resulting from la grippe. Her father was George Schuettrumpf, who died at the age of seventy-five years, while her mother was Mrs. Anna Katherine (Selig) Schmoeger. Mrs. Schmoeger's brothers, all of whom are now deceased, held responsible positions in Germany. George Salzmänn was an officer in the German army, and the hardships endured during the German and French war of 1871 were too severe for him, and he died the following year. John Salzmänn was also an officer in that war, and died at the age of fifty-four years. Peter Salzmänn likewise served as an officer in the German army during that period of hostilities, and died about four years later. Henry Salzmänn was foreman in a large soap, oil and perfume factory in Germany. He served as a soldier in the regular army and lived and died in Alsace-Lorraine.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schmoeger have been born five children. Anna Helen, the eldest, is the wife of Clare Fitch, formerly of Sterling, but now of Peoria, Illinois, and they have four children, Marie Magdalene, Katherine Helen, Lee and George. Frederick A. Schmoeger is manufacturing Sterling stove polish at Sterling, Illinois. He married Florence Utley, but she is now deceased. Martha E. is the wife of Lawrence E. Gould, and they reside in Chicago. Harry J. is a traveling salesman, making his home in Sterling. William G. is attending college at Mercersburg, Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Schmoeger and three of their children are members of St. John's Lutheran church, and Mr. Schmoeger belongs to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him. He has a beautiful home, which

he erected in 1880, and has been a prosperous merchant, being one of the oldest business men of the town, highly respected for his integrity of character and his honorable dealings. His life record should serve to encourage and inspire others, for he came to the new world empty-handed and has since been dependent entirely upon his own resources for his success. He has proved that obstacles and difficulties can be overcome by determined purpose, and that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously.

JOHN ROSENGREN.

John Rosengren, a representative of the farming interests of Coloma township, living on section 36, not far from Rock Falls, was born in Sweden, April 12, 1858, his parents being Gustave B. and Marie (Johnson) Rosengren. It was in the year 1870 that the parents, bidding adieu to friends and native land, sailed with their family for America and, making their way into the interior of the country, settled at Rock Falls. The father was a skilled painter, and for many years was employed by the Keystone Manufacturing Company at Rock Falls.

John Rosengren was about twelve years of age when his parents left their native country and came to the United States, so that he was largely reared in Whiteside county, pursuing his education in the public schools. After putting aside his text-books he began providing for his own support and remained in the employ of others until he was about twenty-three years of age, when he was married, and began farming on his own account. He has since carried on general agricultural pursuits, and his diligence and energy constitute strong factors in the success which has attended him.

It was on the 13th of February, 1883, that Mr. Rosengren wedded Miss Anna Peterson, a daughter of Andrew and Louise Peterson. She was born in Sweden and her parents died in that country when she was but three years of age. The year 1872 witnessed her arrival in America. By this marriage there have been born four children: Herbert, Lloyd, Mabel and Hazel.

On beginning farming on his own account Mr. Rosengren first rented the Kits Miller farm of three hundred and twenty acres, and remained thereon for a year, after which he took up his abode upon the farm which he now occupies on section 36, Coloma township. Here in connection with general farming he has made a specialty of raising shorthorn cattle and road and draft horses, and his livestock interests have been an important branch of revenue to him. The farm comprises four hundred and eighty-seven acres of rich and productive land, and Mr. Rosengren is widely known as a very successful and prosperous farmer, whose labors are carefully directed, while the results that follow are, therefore, most desirable.

Mr. Rosengren takes an active interest in politics, and is a stalwart supporter of the republican party. He believes firmly in its principles, and does all in his power to promote its success. He is now serving for the third term as commissioner of highways, and it was through his endeavors and

influence that the new bridge was built over the canal. He has been the leader in several political contests, and has always been victorious. His devotion to the public good is unquestioned, and his loyalty to the general welfare has been manifest in many tangible ways. He has served as school director for several terms, and is a member of the Mystic Workers, belonging to Lodge No. 32, at Rock Falls. He may truly be called a self-made man, working his way upward through determination and energy, realizing that there is no excellence without labor, and that in business, as well as in every other connection of life, honesty is the best policy.

CHARLES A. CLARK.

While there has been nothing spectacular in the life history of Charles A. Clark, it is none the less important. As a merchant he has conducted a constantly growing business, winning that advancement which comes through indefatigable energy and stalwart purpose. He now deals in hats and men's furnishing goods, having a well selected stock at No. 6 East Third street, in Sterling.

Mr. Clark was born in Morrison, Illinois, August 10, 1862, his parents being John and Jane (Boyd) Clark, who were natives of Fredonia, New York, and of Scotland, respectively. The paternal grandfather was also a native of New York, and the family is of English descent. John Clark was a young man when he came to the west, settling in Morrison, Illinois, where he followed various pursuits. He ran the first dray line and later engaged in the meat and ice business, while subsequently he became an auctioneer. In community affairs he was quite prominent and influential and his ability as a business man and his public-spirited citizenship were widely recognized. He was a staunch supporter of the democracy, filled the office of alderman, and on the day of his death, which occurred November 21, 1895, when he was fifty-five years of age, he was appointed to the position of postmaster of Morrison. His widow still survives him. She is of Scotch lineage, and is a member of the Presbyterian church. In their family were four children: Charles A.; George, deceased; Nettie, who married H. U. Smouse, of Morrison, and died February 6, 1908; and Walter, deceased.

Charles A. Clark was reared in Morrison and attended the public schools. He assisted his father in various ways until he had attained his majority. He then began clerking in Morrison, where he remained for three or four years, and in 1884 he arrived in Sterling, where he accepted a clerkship in the store of R. B. Witmer, in the room which he now occupies. He continued clerking for three or four years, after which he embarked in business on his own account, carrying a full line of hats and men's furnishing goods. A liberal patronage has been accorded him, and the business has proved a profitable investment from the beginning.

On the 8th of July, 1891, Mr. Clark was married to Miss Lena B. Edwards, a daughter of E. P. and Grace Edwards. They had two children, John and

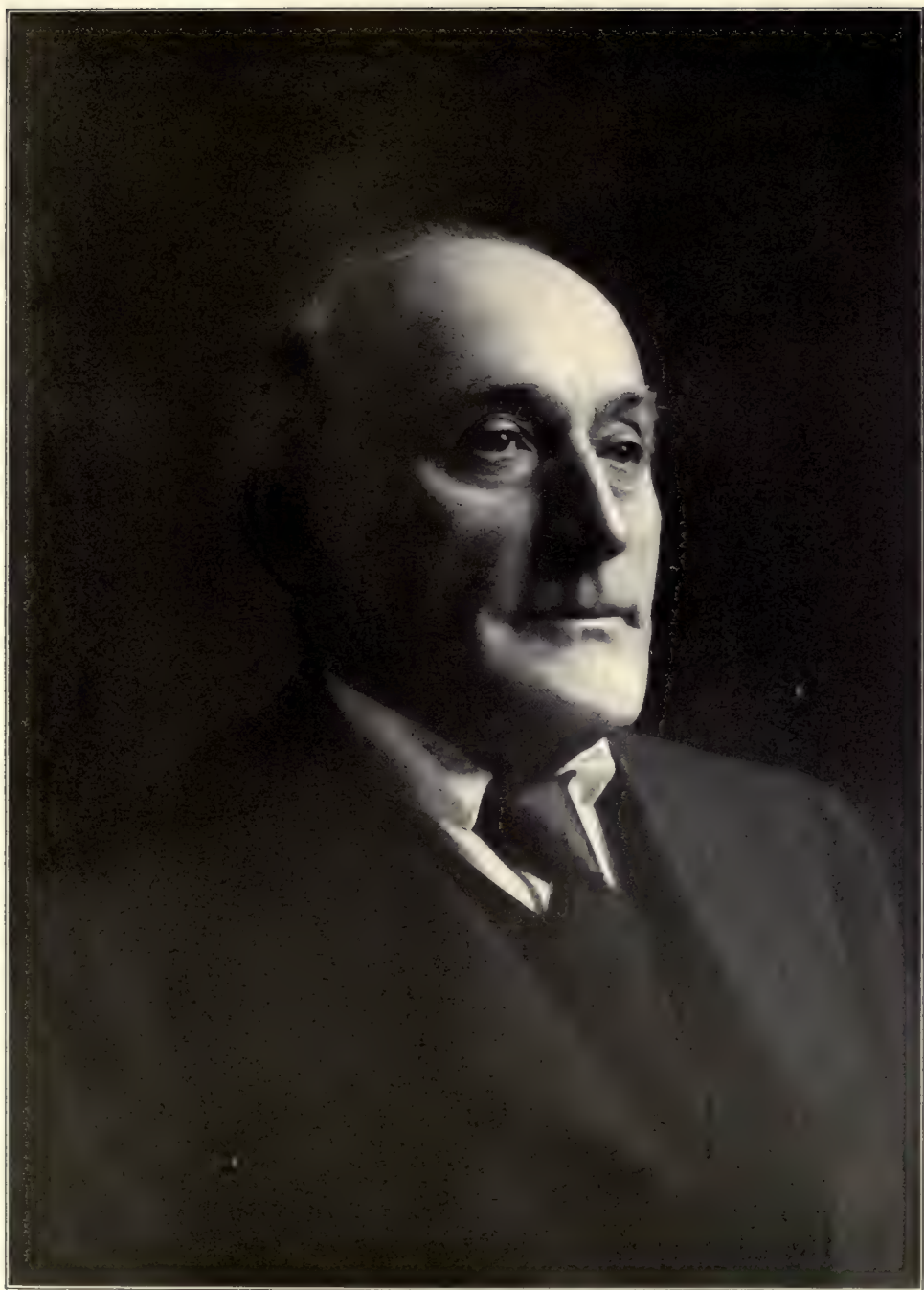
Harold Edward, but the former died when only five and a half years of age. Mrs. Clark's parents were New York people, and on removing to the west settled first in Iowa. They lived in various places in that state, the father being a railroad man, and their home is now in Jewell, Iowa. Mrs. Clark attends the Episcopal church.

Mr. Clark is a member of Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T.; and Tabala Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. In his political allegiance he is a democrat. With his wife and son he resides at No. 302 West Tenth street, where he built a good residence in 1902. During the years of his connection with Sterling he has ever occupied an enviable position in business circles, as one worthy the trust and regard of his fellowmen, while at the same time he has manifested enterprise and industry which have proven the foundation of his present success.

GEORGE F. SHULER.

The German nation has contributed probably more largely to the colonization and civilization of America than any other people. The stability, enterprise and indomitable perseverance characteristic of the Teutonic race constituted the very qualities necessary to promote the growth and development of the new World. As the name indicates, George F. Shuler in the ancestral line, as well as by birth, is a representative of that race. He first opened his eyes to the light of day in far-away Baden, in the village of Schiltach, and was a son of John and Christina Shuler, who passed their entire lives in Germany. The father was twice married and to the first union there were born four children, three of whom are now living, namely: Maria, the wife of James Frank, a resident of Rock Falls; Maciah, who is living in Morrison, Illinois; and George F. Shuler, who is the eldest of the family. To the father's second marriage there was born one son, who remained in Germany.

When James A. Garfield was a youth he was asked what he wanted to make of himself. His reply was, "First I must make of myself a man." He was right—for failure in manhood means failure in life. Perhaps Mr. Shuler in his boyhood had never heard of this answer, but the same spirit characterized him and led him when a young man to seek the opportunities of the new world and to try his fortune in the great west, where advantages do not depend upon the accident of birth, but where men are equal before the law and must rise by their own merits. In the public schools of his native land he acquired his education, after which he worked upon a farm for his father until his emigration to the new world with the exception of two summers, when he was employed as a harvest hand. Before starting for America he visited other parts of Germany and France. The favorable reports that he heard concerning the United States, however, convinced him that it was the land of opportunity and he therefore resolved to make it his



GEORGE F. SHULER

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home. On the 15th of October, 1853, he left London, England, as passenger on the North Cumberland, a sailing vessel plying between that port and New York. After an uneventful voyage of thirty-four days he arrived in the eastern metropolis and proceeded at once to Butler county, Ohio, where he sought and found his first employment in this country, being engaged to husk corn at thirty-five cents per day. He was accompanied by German friends, none of whom could speak English and they were too timid to ask for more wages. Later in the season, however, Mr. Shuler obtained work at cutting wood and doing chores, for which he received the sum of six dollars per month and his board. This lasted through the winter and in the spring his wages were increased to nine and a half dollars per month. He eagerly availed himself of every opportunity to master the English language and to acquaint himself with business and other conditions that here existed, and in the meantime he was forming mental plans to come further west. Although his earnings were very small, by careful expenditure and close economy he acquired a sufficient sum to enable him to make the journey and on the last of August, 1854, he started for Illinois, traveling by rail to Mendota and thence by stage to Dixon, after which he was taken down the south side of Rock river by John Erie.

On the way Mr. Shuler stopped at the place that he now owns to make inquiries concerning a man whom he had known in the old world and who had settled in Sterling township. Soon after his arrival in the new country a scourge of cholera broke out, from which eight people died. Such a condition was not an encouraging outlook, but Mr. Shuler possessed firm purpose and undaunted energy. He eagerly availed himself of the opportunities that offered for work and during the first two years after his arrival in Whiteside county he was employed at farm labor and thus made his start.

In the year 1856 was celebrated the marriage of George F. Shuler and Miss Elizabeth Rorenburg, a native of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The young couple began their domestic life on a tract of land of forty acres on section 9, Sterling township, only one-half of which was under cultivation, while the only improvements upon the place were an old log cabin, sixteen by eighteen feet, and a straw barn. Upon that farm they remained until 1859, when Mr. Shuler purchased another tract of land of forty acres from L. S. Pennington, thus becoming owner of eighty acres in one body. He made a payment of two hundred and thirty dollars upon the second tract, but owing to the hard times and the failure of the bank in which he had his money deposited to pay for the land, he lost forty acres of his property. A year later, however, owing to his untiring energy and good management, he was enabled to repurchase it. In 1863 from his tract of forty acres he sold corn to the amount of nine hundred dollars, receiving a dollar and two cents per bushel. In 1864 he bought of Hiram Platt another tract of forty acres and his possessions now aggregated one hundred and twenty acres. In 1870 he made a purchase of eighty acres situated across the road from his first place and upon this tract he established his home. There he occupied at first a frame house, which at the time of his arrival in the county was considered the best home in the locality. The building is still standing and is now

used for coal and wood. Again in July, 1874, Mr. Shuler was able to add to his land by purchase of one hundred and forty-five acres from John B. Crawford and five years later he bought one hundred and twenty-two acres, but subsequently sold twenty acres of this, which left his landed holdings four hundred and fifty-seven acres. In 1881 he invested in an eighty-acre tract, formerly the property of Emanuel Landis, later bought four acres from David Wolf and one hundred and twenty acres from Abraham N. Landis, so that he had seven hundred and thirty acres in all, which he has owned since 1893. He now has another eighty-acre tract purchased of Benjamin Landis. This property is divided into five farms, on one of which he resides, while the other four are leased and bring to him a good rental. These farms are almost in one body and all are under a state of high cultivation and improvement. Mr. Shuler has given much attention to stock-raising and in feeding stock for the market and has made a specialty of Poland China and Chester White hogs. He has also raised the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and both branches of his business have proven profitable. He is now practically living a retired life, enjoying the benefits of his years of toil and activity since he first landed, a poor boy, upon the shores of America. In 1886 he became a stockholder in the First National Bank of Sterling and in January, 1887, was elected a director and has since served in that capacity, covering a period of twenty-two years.

Among the other events which have shaped his busy career, Mr. Shuler has been called upon to administer a number of estates. At one time he was in charge of seven different estates, which were placed in his care for settlement and at another time he had four. All of this shows the unqualified confidence placed in him by his fellow citizens, who recognize his excellent business ability and his thorough trustworthiness and reliability. He promoted the building of the first iron bridge in Whiteside county and it was through his efforts that the first graveling of roads was commenced. He was commissioner of highways for over twenty-three years and served as school director for twenty-six years. He cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln after becoming a naturalized American citizen and has always been a staunch republican. With his family he attends the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Shuler lost his first wife April 12, 1904, and on the 6th of February, 1907, he married Mrs. Kate Delp, of Whiteside county. By the first union there were four children, namely: Eliza, wife of Ferris Landis; John, deceased; Emma R., wife of Chris Miller, of Whiteside county; and Mary R., at home.

Viewed by what he has accomplished, Mr. Shuler's life seems remarkable, and yet when we examine into the secret of his success it will be found that his prosperity has resulted entirely from his energy, unfaltering labor and perseverance under the direction of a well-balanced mind and characterized by the most honorable dealings and thorough business principles. His life work well entitles him to be ranked with those who have been factors in the growth and development of the county and his name will be held in high esteem throughout the coming years, while the present generation entertains for him the warmest regard. The great majority of his fellow towns-

men have given to him lasting friendship. He has indeed exemplified the Garfield wish and made of himself a man—a man whom to know is to respect and honor.

ALEXANDER McCLOY.

Although Alexander McCloy is now in his eighty-second year he is still to some extent connected with the business interests of Sterling as a real-estate dealer. Well preserved for one of his years, in spirit and interests he seems yet in his prime. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1826, and is a grandson of Neal McCloy, who was born in Ireland, and on coming to America settled in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, while his last days were passed in Washington county, that state. He died at the age of seventy-five years, and his wife, Mrs. Jane (Dickson) McCloy, died in 1833, when well advanced in age. They were the parents of two daughters, while their only son, Alexander McCloy, became the father of our subject. He, too, was born on the Emerald isle and by his parents was brought to America in early life. He became a physician and in 1831 removed to Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, settling near Pittsburg, while later he went to Washington county, Pennsylvania, where he retired from the practice of medicine and began farming. His death occurred in that county in 1871, when he was eighty years of age. In early manhood he wedded Mary Henderson, a native of the Keystone state and a daughter of John Henderson, who was a native of Ireland, but both he and his wife died in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. They had one son and five daughters, including Mrs. McCloy, who departed this life in 1871, at the age of seventy years. Both the father and mother of our subject were faithful Christian people, holding membership in the Presbyterian church. Dr. McCloy served as assistant surgeon in the war of 1812 under Dr. Hume, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

In the family were seven children, five sons and two daughters, but Alexander McCloy of this review is the only one now living. He was but five years of age when his parents removed to Washington county, Pennsylvania, where he was reared and acquired his preliminary education. Later he attended Jefferson College for one term. He learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a short time, and subsequently began clerking in a store in Lancaster county. In 1852 he went into business on his own account at Strasburg, Pennsylvania, where he resided for about nine years, when in 1861 he arrived in Sterling and joined his brother-in-law, Zaddock T. Galt, in the dry-goods business. This relation was maintained until 1871 with good success, after which Mr. McCloy became one of the originators of the Eureka Manufacturing Company and was with that concern until 1887. Since that time he has engaged in the real-estate business and although he has passed the eighty-first milestone of life's journey he still conducts a good business as a real-estate dealer and keeps well informed concerning the property that is upon the market.

On the 4th of May, 1858, Mr. McCloy was married to Miss Isabella Galt, a daughter of William and Mary Ann (Thomas) Galt. They became the parents of two children. William Spencer, the son, is now secretary of the Charter Gas Engine Company. He married Miss Genevieve Keefer, and they have one daughter, Isabel. Mary Belle is the wife of George M. Robinson, of Sterling, president of the Charter Gas Engine Company, and they have two children, William Alexander and Isabella. The mother, Mrs. Alexander McCloy, died February 24, 1888, when about fifty-seven years of age. She was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, to which Mr. McCloy also belongs, and his political views are in harmony with the principles of democracy. For about forty-seven years he has been a resident of Sterling and throughout this period has figured in connection with its business interests, while the course that he has pursued has gained for him the confidence and trust of his fellowmen and gained for him a gratifying measure of prosperity in the business world.

KARL J. MARTINDALE, D. D. S.

Karl J. Martindale, successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry in Morrison, was born in Ustick township, this county, in 1880. His father, John C. Martindale, was a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, and coming to Illinois, settled on a farm in Ustick township, Whiteside county, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and gaining a good financial reward from the sale of his crops. He retired from the farm in 1873 and took up his abode in Fulton, where he engaged in the grain business. For four or five years he ran a vessel on the Mississippi river and during the administration of President Harrison he served as postmaster of Fulton. At the time of the Civil war he responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting on the 1st of August, 1862, as a member of Company F, Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. However, on the 23d of February, 1863, he was honorably discharged on account of disability at Memphis, Tennessee. He attained the rank of sergeant and was a brave and loyal soldier. Following the war he became a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His political allegiance was given the republican party and he served as assessor of his township. In his fraternal relations he was a Mason and his life was in harmony with the beneficent spirit of the craft. He married Agnes A. Lowrie, who was born in Pennsylvania and is now living at the age of sixty-nine years. She is a member of the Presbyterian church and to her husband was a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey. She was called upon to mourn his loss in August, 1901, his death occurring when he had reached the age of sixty-four years. Their family numbered three children: Edward L., the eldest, is now a practicing physician of Clinton, Iowa. Walter P., the second son, is a member of the bar at Quincy, Illinois.

Karl J. Martindale, the youngest son, was reared to farm life and pursued his education in the schools of Fulton, Illinois, and in the high school

at Clinton, Iowa. Determining upon the dental profession in his choice of a life work, he began study in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1898 and was graduated on the completion of a course in dental surgery in 1901. He then located for practice at St. Ignace, Michigan, where he remained for one year, after which he came to Morrison, where he has since remained. A liberal patronage has been accorded him and he ranks among the able members of the profession, possesses excellent mechanical ability as well as theoretical knowledge and at all times keeps in touch with the latest discoveries of the dental profession and the inventions which have brought dental instruments so close to perfection.

In April, 1907, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Martindale and Miss Minne Belle Robinson, who was born in Morrison, a daughter of Frank and Carrie (Clarke) Robinson, the former a hardware merchant of Morrison. Dr. and Mrs. Martindale are well known socially and have a very warm circle of friends. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and his political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party, but while he thoroughly endorses its platform, he has neither time nor inclination for office, preferring to give his attention to his professional duties. He is winning success in his chosen calling and is now accorded a gratifying patronage.

HENRY WHITE.

Henry White, whose landed possessions aggregate two hundred and seventy acres, his home being situated in Lyndon township, is one of the worthy residents that Germany has furnished to Illinois. He was born in the fatherland, September 22, 1869, and was but three years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, Henry and Dora Kraken. The mother died of smallpox soon after their arrival in the new world, and the subject of this review then went to live with Mathew and Sarah M. White, who resided upon a farm which our subject now owns. He received from them the care and attention of loving parents, being legally adopted by them and ultimately coming into possession of the old homestead. It was upon this farm that his foster father died, in 1882. Mrs. White still survives, and is now living in Nebraska, at the age of eighty-nine years, with her daughter, Mrs. Zella Slater, who is her only living child.

Mr. White is indebted to the public-school system for the educational privileges he enjoyed and he received thorough training in farm work, so that he was well qualified to take charge of a farm of his own when he was enabled to purchase one. In 1893 he bought one hundred and sixty acres and later he purchased the old homestead property upon which he now resides, this comprising one hundred and ten acres. At the present time his landed possessions aggregate two hundred and seventy acres on sections 3 and 4, Lyndon township, upon which he has two sets of buildings. His farm is largely devoted to stock and in this connection he makes good profit from his invest-

ment and his labor. In the fall of 1907 he suffered a loss, having a barn destroyed by fire but altogether as the years have passed by he has prospered, owing to his unfaltering diligence and persistency of purpose.

In 1891 Mr. White was married to Miss Cora Pope, who was born in Manchester, Iowa, September 27, 1871, a daughter of Thomas and Mary Pope. They now have three children, Ernest, Ruby and Roy. The parents are well known in the community and have many warm friends who esteem them highly for their good traits of heart and mind. Mr. White gives his political support to the republican party and in matters of citizenship is progressive and enterprising, realizing the fact that earnest labor is the basis of all desirable success, while in his business dealings he indicates his thorough understanding and belief in the old adage that honesty is the best policy.

ELAM R. GRUBB.

Elam R. Grubb is the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred acres in Genesee township and his time and attention are devoted to its further development and improvement. He was born April 1, 1842, in Pennsylvania, the elder of two sons, his brother being Nehemiah Grubb, also living in Genesee township. The parents were Samuel and Mary (Rowe) Grubb, both natives of the Keystone state. The father was born February 19, 1816, while the mother's birth occurred December 22, 1805. Mr. Grubb was a cooper by trade and remained in the east until 1854, when he started westward with his family, proceeding to Chicago and thence to Genesee by rail. From that point he made his way by stage to Sterling, where he worked at the carpenter's trade for one year and built the first house in the city, but the structure has since been destroyed by fire. In 1855 he removed to Genesee township and purchased eighty acres of land on section 33. This he improved, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation and making his home thereon until 1903, when he sold his land. He now lives with his son Elam at the very advanced age of ninety-two years. He is in many respects a remarkable man, having never used glasses and yet still reading his paper. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and his life has been upright and honorable, winning for him the respect and confidence of all with whom he is associated. His wife passed away October 12, 1896, at the age of ninety years.

Elam R. Grubb spent the first twelve years of his life in the state of his nativity and began his education in the public schools there. He then accompanied his parents on their removal to the west, where he continued his studies and more and more largely aided in the work of the home farm. He was married in 1870 and in that year purchased forty acres of land, where he now lives and which he has improved. It constituted the nucleus of his present farm and to this he has added from time to time until he now owns two hundred acres of well improved land. He possesses much natural mechanical skill and ability and this enables him to keep every-

thing about his place in a state of excellent repair. When farm machinery, fences or anything about the house get out of order he has the skill necessary to set things right again and everything about his place is kept in excellent condition. The farm is now a valuable and well improved property, from which he derives a good annual income.

On the 27th of February, 1870, Mr. Grubb was married to Miss Eliza A. Peugh, a daughter of Charles B. and Jane (Louden) Peugh. Mrs. Grubb was born October 11, 1848, in Indiana, and was four years of age when brought by her parents to this county. She has become the mother of two children: Charles L., who is upon the home farm; and Fannie A., the wife of Earl J. Gilbert, of this township.

Mr. Grubb gives his political allegiance to the republican party but has never been an aspirant for office. He has served as school director for several years and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He believes in maintaining a high standard in the schools and in employing competent teachers. His time and energies, however, are chiefly given to his business interests and he now has a valuable farm property, which constitutes one of the attractive features of the landscape.

MICHAEL P. GRAHAM.

Michael P. Graham, proprietor and manager of the Bedal Gold Cure at Sterling, is one of the native sons of Illinois, having been born in Ogle county, near Polo, February 15, 1863. He comes of Irish lineage in the paternal line and his grandfather spent his entire life in that country. His son, Owen Graham, who was born on the Emerald isle, being a native of County Roscommon, devoted his entire life to farming and in the early '40s crossed the Atlantic to America, settling in Ogle county, Illinois, before the era of railroad building in this part of the state. His first wife was a Miss Kenney, and unto them were born three children, of whom two are now living: Mary, the wife of Lawrence Kavanaugh, of Sterling; and Catherine, the wife of John Wentz, of Chicago. Having lost his first wife, Owen Graham wedded Mary Blouck, who was born in County Mayo, Ireland. They became the parents of two children, the elder being Nellie Graham, now the wife of Theodore Coffey, of Greenfield, Iowa. The death of the father occurred February 3, 1903, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-two years.

In taking up the personal history of Michael P. Graham we present to our readers the life record of one well known in Sterling. He was reared in Ogle county, Illinois, upon his father's farm to the age of seventeen years and attended the district and public schools during that period. He then began handling horses, making judicious purchases and sales and for three years carried on the business. On the expiration of that period he took up the work of general farming and stock-raising upon the old homestead and biennially held a sale of stock. In 1891 he established a Bedal

Gold Cure in Polo, Illinois, and in June, 1893, removed his business to Sterling. He has treated many people for the liquor, morphine, opium and other drug habits from all parts of the United States and has effected many cures, so that the victims of these habits have been reclaimed for lives of usefulness and honorable manhood. In this connection Mr. Graham is doing a great and important work and his labors are well worthy of commendation.

On the 22d of April, 1885, Mr. Graham was married to Miss Lizzie F. Vaughn, a daughter of William and Catharine (Burns) Vaughn, who were natives of Ireland and became early settlers of Carroll county, Illinois. The father was a railroad man throughout the greater part of his life. In his family were three children. The death of Mr. Vaughn occurred March 24, 1901, while his wife survived until 1903. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Graham has been born one son, Eugene William Vaughn Graham, who is attending the business college in Sterling.

The parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Graham belongs to the Knights of Columbus. Politically he is a democrat but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, as he prefers to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. He resides at No. 307 Seventh avenue, where he owns a good home, and he also has other residence property in the city. He has conducted his Gold Cure in Sterling since 1893 and has met with success in this undertaking.

FERNANDO NATHANIEL BREWER.

Fernando Nathaniel Brewer is a representative of one of Whiteside county's oldest families. He was but a year old when his father, Daniel Porter Brewer, came to this county in August, 1837, and settled upon a farm. At his old home in Massachusetts he had followed the tailor's trade, but after his removal to the west turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, with which he was connected during the greater part of his life. On arriving in this county all of the experiences of a pioneer life lay before him. Only five years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and there were still many proofs of Indian occupancy here. The homes of the settlers were widely scattered and many of them were little log cabins. The farmer had to depend almost entirely upon his own skill, ingenuity and labor for everything that he needed upon the farm. If machinery was broken he must have the necessary skill to repair it, for blacksmith and machine shops were far distant. The early settler also had to go long distances to mill and market and much that was consumed by the family had to be raised upon the farm. After a residence of sixty-six years in this county Daniel P. Brewer passed away December 12, 1902, having for several years survived his wife, Mrs. Emaline Brewer, who died November 19, 1894. They spent their last days in Portland, living retired from business cares.

As stated, F. N. Brewer was but a year old when brought by his parents to this county, the family home being established in Portland township. His



MR. AND MRS. F. N. BREWER

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birth had occurred in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, July 23, 1836. He was reared upon the frontier in the usual manner of farm lads of the period and locality and attended the local schools of Portland. He remained with his father upon the home farm until twenty-five years of age, assisting him largely in the work of the place. He early became familiar with the arduous task of developing new land and as the years passed by brought the farm under a high state of cultivation. In 1862 he left home and rented a farm east of Prophetstown and thus began general farming on his own account. Continuing in the business, he became one of the successful agriculturists of the community.

In 1863 Mr. Brewer was married to Miss Cordelia Frary, of this county. They have two children, of whom Mason Porter Brewer, born February 7, 1866, is now conducting a hardware store in Prophetstown. Eva Emeline, born July 6, 1872, is the wife of George P. Fisk, a resident of Prophetstown township.

Since the organization of the party Mr. Brewer has given his allegiance to the republican platform and has been called to fill several local offices, serving as supervisor and assessor, while for nearly a quarter of a century he has been school director, the cause of education finding in him a warm and stalwart friend. In 1895 he joined the Masonic fraternity and he is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church. He is greatly interested in the Old Settlers' Society, has served on its committees for forty years and has never missed one of its meetings. There are few men who have so intimate and correct a knowledge of the early history of this county as has Mr. Brewer, whose residence here now covers more than the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten.

LUMAN M. RAMSAY.

Luman M. Ramsay, a stockman and agriculturist, who also conducts a meat market, resides at No. 704 East Second street in Rock Falls. He was born in Como, Whiteside county, Illinois, July 11, 1858, a son of William and Lucy Ann (Church) Ramsay, the former a native of Rome, Oneida county, New York, and the latter of Oxford, Chenango county, New York. The paternal grandparents of our subject were David and Lydia (Butler) Ramsay, the former a native of Vermont and a farmer and stockman by occupation. They both died when past middle life. In their family were five children: William; Luther; Hannah, who died in early life; Euphemia, who was the wife of William Pratt; and Lydia, the wife of P. K. Marfleet, of Prophetstown.

The maternal grandparents were Bradford and Ann Whittlesey (Barnes) Church, the former a native of Oxford, Chenango county, New York. He was a farmer by occupation and an early settler of Lee Center, Lee county, Illinois, where he took up his abode in 1840. In 1876 both he and his wife came to Whiteside county, where they made their home with William

Ramsay until the time of their demise. Bradford Church passed away when eighty-nine years of age, while his wife died at the age of eighty-six. Their family numbered five children, namely: Lucy Ann; Jane, who was the wife of Henry Moore; Elizabeth, who was the wife of Rufus Moore; Fitch, who died at the age of eighteen years; and Frederick Rollin, who died at the age of thirty-five years, at Menominee. He was a very promising young man and a member of the Wisconsin legislature.

William Ramsay was a farmer and stock-drover throughout his active business life. In 1839 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating at what was then Rapids City, now Rock Falls, where he remained until the spring of 1840, when he settled in Hume township, purchasing several pieces of land, which he improved, having about three hundred acres at that place. He removed to Como in 1852, continuing there until 1858, when he returned to Hume township and developed a farm that is now known as the Pond Lily Farm, making his home on that property until 1897. In that year he came to Rock Falls and resided at Oak Lawn until the time of his death, in 1900, when he was eighty-five years of age. He used to haul grain and drive stock to Chicago and, on one occasion when he could not sell his hogs, butchered them there and sold them on State street at a dollar and a quarter per hundred.

Mrs. Ramsay survived her husband until October, 1907, when she, too, was called to her final rest, having attained the age of eighty-seven years. Both she and her husband were devoted members of the Congregational church and when they departed this life the county mourned the loss of two of its most honored and respected pioneers. Mrs. Ramsay was a graduate of Oxford Female Seminary, studying languages and mathematics, was a fine scholar and taught a select school in Dixon for some time. She was a great reader and a woman of wide general information, so that her advice was sought by the people of the neighborhood on all kinds of subjects, for her excellent education made her opinions valuable. She possessed a retentive memory and was, moreover, a lady of refinement and great force of character, which latter quality strongly manifested itself when she became a pioneer of Whiteside county and established a home in the wilderness. She proved an able helpmate and wise counselor to her husband, a good wife, a loving mother, an exemplary Christian and was held in the highest esteem by all with whom she came in contact. She was a great aid to her husband in accumulating a competency for their declining years. The pioneer women, as well as men, are entitled to great credit for the part they bore in building up a new country and Mrs. Ramsay's far-reaching influence for good was recognized by all who knew her. Both she and her husband deserve much praise for their courage, patience and perseverance in accomplishing what they started out in life to do, namely: to accumulate a competence for old age, to rear their family to become useful and respected citizens and to leave to posterity a noble example and an untarnished name. Their children, to each of whom they gave a good start in life, were five in number: William F., of Blue Hill, Mitchell county, Kansas; Kate and Elizabeth, of Rock Falls; Luman M., of this review; and Luther, who died in infancy.

Luman M. Ramsay was reared on his father's farm in Hume township, and supplemented the education which he received in the district schools by a course in the Sterling Business College. He carried on agricultural pursuits until 1897, when he came with his parents to Rock Falls, where he has since made his home, his sisters, Kate and Elizabeth, residing with him in the old home of their parents. In 1905 he purchased the meat market of N. S. Beecher and has since conducted the same with good success. He also buys and sells considerable stock and in his business interests has gained a gratifying measure of prosperity because of his industry and excellent management. In connection with his sisters he owns a farm of three hundred and twenty acres which is situated partly in Whiteside county and partly in Henry county and is known as the Cloverland farm. In addition to their attractive home in Rock Falls they also have four acres of ground, and the hospitality which they dispense so freely is just as cordially extended to them by their many friends. For a half century, or throughout the entire period of his life, Mr. Ramsay has been a resident of this county and is a credit to the name which has been an honored one here for almost three score years and ten.

JOHN G. WETZEL.

John G. Wetzel, secretary of the Whiteside Building & Loan Association of Sterling and engaged also in the insurance, renting and loan business, was born in Hopkins township, Whiteside county, Illinois, November 1, 1869, his parents being Lewis and Mary (Lawyer) Wetzel, who were natives of Ohio. The paternal grandfather was a native of Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Ohio, while at a later date he became a resident of Whiteside county, Illinois, where he died at an advanced age, while his wife reached the remarkable old age of ninety-two years.

Lewis Wetzel, the father of our subject, carried on farming in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, and came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in the early '50s with his parents who settled first on a farm in Genesee township, near Coleta. Later Lewis Wetzel removed to Hopkins township, where he purchased two hundred acres of land, upon which he resided until the fall of 1888. About twenty years ago he retired from the farm and removed to Galt, Illinois, where he still resides, having spent the last two decades in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves. He has held various township offices and has been a man of considerable influence in his community. Unto him and his wife were born four children: Rebecca, the deceased wife of W. A. Mensch, her death occurring July 12, 1893; Delilah, the wife of N. J. Reed, of Emerson, Illinois; John G., of Sterling; and Rollin E., who resides in St. Paul, Minnesota.

John G. Wetzel spent his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of farm lads, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the district schools and later

supplemented his early educational advantages by study in Dixon Business College and in Sterling Business College, completing his course in each. He then began keeping the books for the Eureka Company of Rock Falls, with which he remained for two years, while subsequently he was book-keeper in the Galt & Tracy Bank, there continuing until the firm became Galt & Son. In the fall of 1896 he became secretary of the Whiteside County Building & Loan Association and has since acted in that capacity. In addition to this he conducts an independent loan and insurance business and annually writes many fire policies and also has succeeded in placing many loans.

On the 20th of June, 1895, Mr. Wetzel was united in marriage to Miss Dora A. Whipple, daughter of Monroe and Annie (McKin) Whipple. There were three children born of that union, Dorothy May, Harriet E. and John Monroe Wetzel.

Mr. and Mrs. Wetzel are members of the Presbyterian church and are people of genuine personal worth, for whom their fellow townsmen entertain the warmest regard. Mr. Wetzel is also a director of the Young Men's Christian Association and is identified with various fraternal organizations. He belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T.; and Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine, in Chicago. He is likewise connected with Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is now serving as a member of the town central committee. He is also assistant supervisor of Sterling township and is actively and helpfully interested in many movements relating to the general welfare. In fact he stands for progress and advancement in citizenship as well as in business life and the fact that many of his warmest friends are those who have known him from his youth to the present indicates that his has been an honorable career.

DAVID MATHEW.

While David Mathew has put aside the more active work of the farm, he is still the owner of a valuable property of three hundred and twenty acres on sections 1 and 12, Mount Pleasant township. There for many years he carried on general agricultural pursuits and the place is now operated by his son George W. He also owns the W. C. Thomas farm of two hundred and eighty acres on sections 8 and 9, Mount Pleasant township, which is being cultivated by his son David W. Mr. Mathew makes his home upon a tract of land of sixteen acres in the village of Round Grove and the fruits of his former toil now supply him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

A native of Scotland, he was born in Fifeshire, June 3, 1824, his parents being William and Janet (Wylie) Mathew, who came to America some years after the arrival of their son David. They took up their abode in Tucker county, West Virginia, in 1851, and in 1857 came to Whiteside county, Illi-

nois, settling in Hopkins township, where the mother died, while the father passed away in Mount Pleasant township. Their children were Thomas, David, William, Janet, Andrew, Margaret, Ann, Jane, Robert and Alexander.

David Mathew was reared and educated in Scotland, remaining upon the home farm until sixteen years of age. He was a young man of twenty-four years when he crossed the Atlantic to the new world in 1848, arriving in New York. Continuing his residence in the east for some time he taught school for several terms in Maryland and afterward became connected with repair work on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He followed that pursuit for several years and finally invested his savings in two hundred acres of land in Tucker county, West Virginia, where he carried on general farming for some time. Thinking, however, to enjoy better opportunities in the middle west, he disposed of his interests in Tucker county and in 1860 came to Whiteside county, where for five years he engaged in the cultivation of a rented farm of eighty acres. He then bought eighty acres on section 1, Mount Pleasant township, for which he paid sixteen dollars per acre. To this he has added, and, becoming owner of various farms, his landed possessions now aggregate more than thirteen hundred acres. In addition to a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Mount Pleasant, now operated by his son George, and a farm of two hundred and eighty acres on sections 8 and 9, Mount Pleasant township, which he purchased in 1900 and which is now cultivated by his son David W., he also has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Union Grove township, which is operated by his son Samuel. He also owns several hundred acres east of Round Grove in Hopkins and Mount Pleasant townships, that in Hopkins being farmed by his son Robert while a farm in Mount Pleasant is operated by his son Simon, and his farming interests return to him an excellent income upon his investments. He has displayed keen discernment in the purchase of his property, being seldom if ever at fault in matters of judgment regarding land values. He was active in business for many years and his energy, enterprise and keen discrimination are manifest in the splendid success which has come to him.

Mr. Mathew was married in Virginia to Miss Anne Wolf, whose people were from Holland. Mrs. Mathew was probably a descendant of General Wolf, and was a daughter of George A. and Catherine (Barb) Wolf. She was born in Tucker county, West Virginia, and died in this county in 1901. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mathew were born thirteen children: William B., who owns a farm near Round Grove; Janet and George, twins, the latter now deceased, while the former is residing with her father; Catherine, deceased; Robert, a farmer near Round Grove; Mrs. Mary Sherman, who is living in Ames, Iowa; Anna, who is engaged in dressmaking in Morrison; David W., who is operating the Thomas farm owned by his father; George W., twin brother of David and now successfully carrying on general farming on the home place in Mount Pleasant township; James A., of Round Grove, who operates an elevator and is meeting with prosperity as a grain buyer; Ezra, who is assistant cashier of the Sterling Bank; Simon, who operates a farm belonging to his father east of Round Grove; and Samuel, twin brother of Simon, and now cultivating a part of his father's land in Union Grove township.

Mr. Mathew gave his early political allegiance to the democracy and for many years has been a stalwart republican. He voted for Buchanan in 1856 but since that time has given his allegiance to the men whose names have headed the national republican ticket. He has served as school director for a number of years and the cause of education has found in him a stalwart friend. In early life he was connected with the Odd Fellows society but is not active in his relations therewith at the present time. He has been a life-long member of the Presbyterian church and his daily conduct has been in strict conformity to its teachings. In his business he has been thoroughly reliable and while he has met success it has come to him by reason of honorable methods that may well be followed by others. His prosperity has resulted from judicious investment and from untiring energy and gradually he has worked his way upward until he is now one of the most extensive landowners of the county.

APPLETON RICH LEWIS.

Appleton Rich Lewis, engaged in the real-estate business and also manager of the auditorium of Morrison, was born in Union Grove township in 1858. His father, Mitchell Y. Lewis, was a native of Knox county, Ohio, born July 1, 1820, and was of Welsh ancestry. He became a carpenter and contractor but in early life worked as a cabinet-maker and joiner. He made the trip from Ohio to Illinois on horseback in 1854 to look over the country and, being pleased with its prospects, the following year he brought his family to Morrison, where he remained for a short time. He then rented a farm in Union Grove township, cultivating that land until 1865, when he resumed work at his trade, which he followed for some time. In November, 1844, he wedded Martha J. Lane, a native of New Jersey and of Irish descent. In 1894 they celebrated their golden wedding, at which were present their six children, the minister who married them and also guests who witnessed the marriage ceremony. Up to that time there had not been a death in the family and Mr. Lewis was the first one to depart this life, dying on the eightieth anniversary of his birth. He and his wife had traveled life's journey together for about fifty-six years. In his fraternal relations he was a Mason and on the seventy-fifth anniversary of his birth, Dunlap Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Morrison, set aside all rules and made him an honorary member of that organization. His early political allegiance was given the democracy prior to 1856, when he voted for John C. Fremont, the pathfinder, and ever afterward gave his political allegiance to the republican party. He had no aspiration for office but was always loyal and progressive in citizenship and was a man strictly honest in his dealings, his upright life winning for him the esteem and confidence of his neighbors and friends. His wife survived him until December, 1904, passing away in her seventy-ninth year. She was a member of the Presbyterian church and a most estimable lady. In their family were three sons and three daughters: Mary, the wife of Theodore W. McDaniel, of Morrison; Elizabeth,

the widow of Aaron H. Martin, who also makes her home in Morrison; John W., a carpenter of Tulsa, Indian Territory; William H., who is a painter of Morrison; Jennie M., who is the wife of Rev. Glenvoie McQueen, a minister of the Presbyterian church at Versailles, Indiana; and Appleton Rich, of this review.

The last named lived upon a farm in this county for six years in his early boyhood and afterward attended the common schools of Morrison. At the age of sixteen he entered the office of the Morrison Sentinel, where he remained for six years, becoming thoroughly acquainted with the art preservative, gradually working his way upward until he was foreman of the office. Entering the drug store of A. H. Martin, he then acquainted himself with that line of business and passed a state examination before the state board of pharmacy in 1888. In the fall of the following year he formed a partnership with J. H. Snyder and purchased the Martin store. They conducted business together for more than eleven years under the firm style of J. H. Snyder & Company, after which Mr. Lewis retired from the firm on the 1st of January, 1900, and engaged in the cigar and tobacco business. He also assumed the management of the Morrison auditorium. He continued in the tobacco trade until 1904, after which he spent about two years at Tulsa, Indian Territory, purchasing some property there. He then returned to Morrison and since the early part of 1907 has been engaged in the real-estate business, thoroughly acquainting himself with the value of property and negotiating a number of realty transfers during the past year. He is also manager of the auditorium and is well known in the business circles of this city, while his strongly marked characteristics are such as have gained for him personal popularity.

Mr. Lewis is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Odd Fellows Lodge, the Dixon Lodge of Elks and Sterling commandery, K. T. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he has been somewhat prominent in its local ranks. Three times he has been elected city treasurer and proved himself a most faithful custodian of the public funds. He has a wide acquaintance in this county and is recognized as one of its representative citizens.

ROBERT R. SPAFFORD.

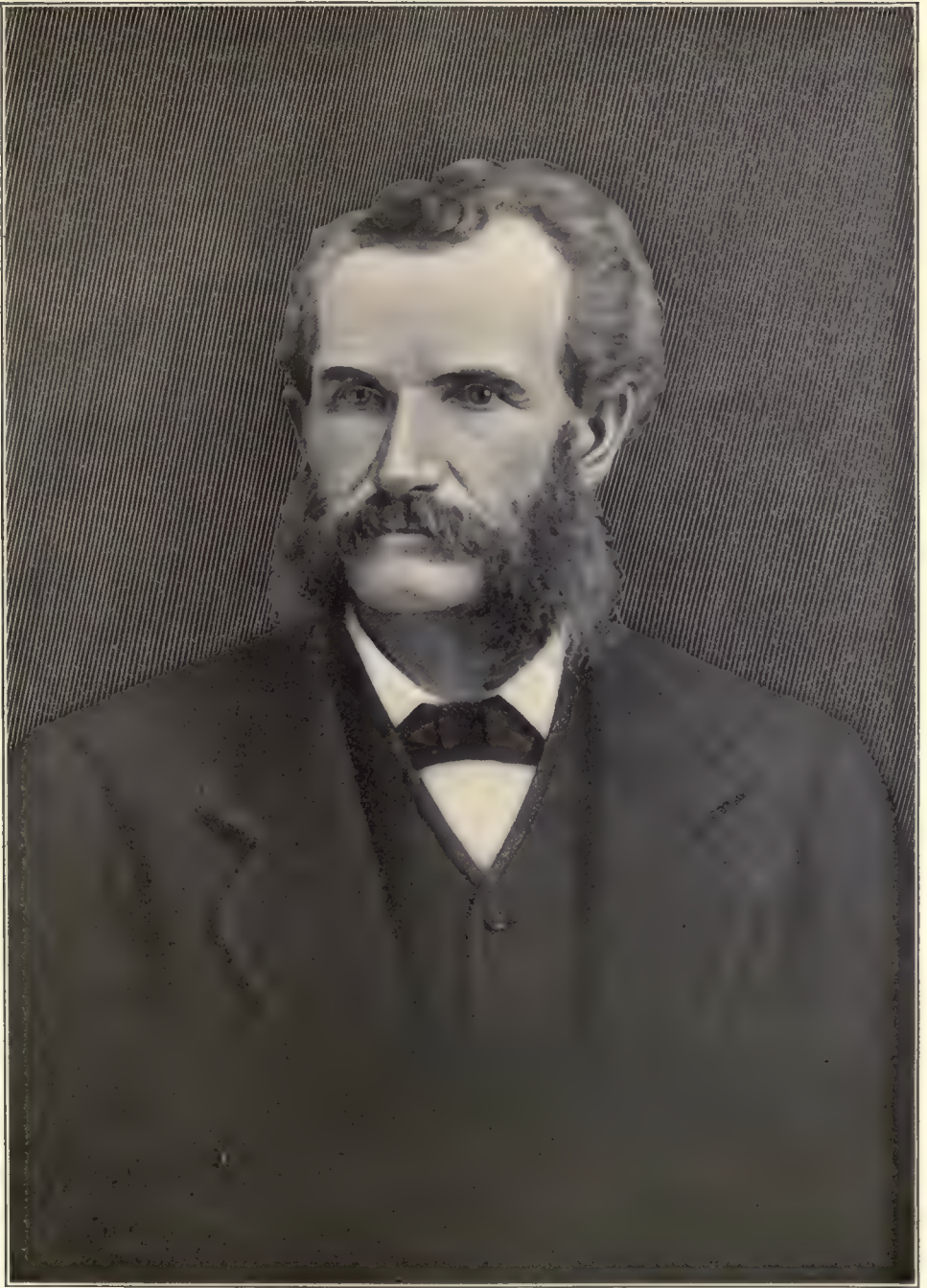
Robert R. Spafford is one of Morrison's native sons, who throughout his entire life, since completing his education, has been identified with its business interests. Born in this city in 1874, his parents were D. S. and Lydia Spafford, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. At the usual age he became a pupil in the public schools and was graduated from Oberlin (Ohio) Academy, while later he attended the Rose Polytechnic School at Terre Haute, Indiana. Well equipped by liberal educational advantages for life's practical and responsible duties, after completing his education he engaged with a company in installing electric light plants for

two years. He afterward spent three years in his father's store as bookkeeper and was with the firm of Potter & Johnson, lumber and grain dealers, as bookkeeper for six years. In 1906 he entered into partnership with C. D. Gallentine, becoming a member of the C. D. Gallentine Company, having a hot house forcing plant, with a total of one hundred and twenty-five thousand square feet of glass. The business has gradually developed under the care and control of the enterprising men who constitute the partnership and is proving a profitable investment. Thus gradually Mr. Spafford has worked his way upward until he is now a recognized factor in the business life of his native city.

In 1898 Mr. Spafford was married to Miss Lela M. Beuzeville, a daughter of F. J. and Maria Beuzeville, and a native of Morrison, Illinois, born in 1877. Her father was a pioneer and one of the early and successful merchants of Morrison. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Spafford were born two children, Eloise Lela and Frederick R., but the son is now deceased. Mr. Spafford exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party. He has a wide acquaintance in this city and throughout Whiteside county, where his entire life has been passed, and a genial, cordial manner and genuine character worth are the sources of his popularity.

JOHN BUYERS.

John Buyers, deceased, who was a man of many friends, spent his last years in honorable retirement in Sterling, having previously, however, been closely associated with the business interests of the county as an agriculturist. Mr. Buyers was born in Buyerstown, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, March 2, 1834. His parents, James A. and Eliza J. (McJimsey) Buyers, were also natives of the Keystone state, residing about fourteen miles from the city of Lancaster on a farm, which was deeded to the Buyers family by the nephews of William Penn, and which remained in possession of the descendants of the original holders of the family until 1905. The first representatives of the name in Pennsylvania came from north of Ireland to the new world. The paternal grandfather, Captain Robert Buyers, won his title by service in the Colonial army during the war of the Revolution, being commissioned in April, 1776. He did valiant service in defense of the Colonial cause and lived for many years to enjoy the fruits of liberty. His commission, which was signed by John Morton, speaker of the house of Pennsylvania three months before the Declaration of Independence was written, is now in possession of Mrs. Buyers and is a most cherished heirloom. She also possesses the sword worn by Captain Buyers. He married Jean Armour and their family included James A. Buyers who, as stated, followed farming on the old farm homestead. He wedded Eliza J. McJimsey, a daughter of Joseph McJimsey, who was a merchant of the city of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and at one time representative from his district to the state legislature. He married Eliza Galt, and both died at a comparatively early age, leaving three little daugh-



JOHN BUYERS.

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ters, Eliza J., Mary and Ann, all now deceased. Mary became the wife of S. S. Patterson, who was well known in Sterling as a banker. Ann never married and died in this city. The McJimseys are also of Scotch descent. Eliza J. McJimsey gave her hand in marriage to James A. Buyers, and to them were born three sons and three daughters, who reached adult age, while two children died in infancy. The father passed away at the ancestral home of the family in Pennsylvania, at the age of eighty-two years, while the wife died at the age of eighty-three. They lived to celebrate their golden wedding.

John Buyers, whose name introduces this record, was reared in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on a farm and acquired his education in the east. The year 1859 witnessed his arrival in Sterling and soon afterward he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Hopkins township, upon which he lived for eleven years, but it was on that place that he and his wife began their domestic life, while later they removed to what is known as the Galt farm at the town of Galt, where they also remained for eleven years. During this period of more than two decades Mr. Buyers was an enterprising, energetic and representative agriculturist whose careful conduct of his business brought him a gratifying measure of success. Failing health, however, led him to abandon agricultural pursuits and in 1890 he took up his abode in Sterling, where he afterward lived retired until called to the home beyond.

On the 11th of May, 1865, Mr. Buyers was married to Miss Frances Anna Galt, a daughter of John and Sarah Maria (Buyers) Galt, who were among the early settlers of Sterling, and of whom further mention is made in connection with the history of John B. Galt on another page of this work.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Buyers were born ten children, six sons and four daughters: Jessie M., who is a teacher in the Wallace school in Sterling; James A., occupying a position in the office of the Sterling Manufacturing Company; Eliza, who died in early womanhood; Charles A., who is manager in the office of the International Harvester Company at Sterling and married Alice Weaver; Bruce, who died in infancy; Thomas G., who died in April, 1903, at the age of twenty-six years; Lizzie M., who died when nine years of age; Mary, living at home; Donald E., a machinist who is now studying mechanical engineering at the Illinois University, at Champaign; and Archie, who is also attending the university.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Buyers were consistent, faithful and helpful members and workers of the Presbyterian church, and for forty-five years Mr. Buyers was honored as an elder of the First Presbyterian church of Sterling. In politics he was a republican and was ever a loyal and patriotic citizen. In May, 1861, he offered his services to the government and became a member of Company B, Thirteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving first as corporal and afterward as sergeant. He continued with the army as a faithful soldier for eighteen months in Missouri and Arkansas and was then obliged to return home on account of impaired health.

For seventeen years he was a resident of Sterling, living retired in the enjoyment of well-earned rest up to the time of his death, which occurred July 23, 1907, when he was seventy-three years of age. He was a man of high purposes and honorable principles, who in all of his relations with his

fellowmen was actuated by a spirit of consideration, justice and right. His death therefore was the occasion of deep regret to his many friends, while his memory is yet cherished by those who knew him and may well serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others. Mrs. Buyers still survives her husband and is most highly esteemed in Sterling, where she makes her home.

CHRISTIAN HARTMAN.

Among the residents of Sterling who in former years were identified with agricultural interests but are now living retired in the enjoyment of well earned and well merited rest is Christian Hartman. A native of Germany, he was born in Wittenberg on the 9th of August, 1832, his parents being Adam and Barbara Hartman, who were likewise natives of Germany. The father was a cabinet-maker in the village of Galdorf and died there when about sixty years of age. His wife survived him and afterward came to America in 1855, settling in Trenton, New Jersey. At a later date she came west to Sterling but remained for only a short time and then returned to Trenton, where she passed away in 1885 at the very advanced age of ninety-five years. She was a Lutheran in religious faith and Adam Hartman was also identified with that church. Their family numbered twelve children, but only two are now living, the elder being Barbara, a resident of Trenton, New Jersey.

Christian Hartman was reared in the land of his birth, acquired his education in the schools there and afterward worked at farm labor by the month. In 1853 he came to America, living in Trenton, New Jersey, for five years. In 1860 he arrived in Sterling, Illinois, and worked at farm labor by the month. He afterward bought a farm of eighty acres in Genesee township and made his home there for a little more than twenty-one years. He then removed to Sterling and rented his farm for several years, after which he sold it and for the past twenty-three years he has lived retired in Sterling. Here he built a good home, which he still owns and occupies at No. 611 Fifth avenue, and he likewise has another dwelling in the city, from which he obtains a good rental. In former years he was most active and energetic in his farming operations and his labors were carefully directed by sound judgment. In all of his farm work he met with success and gained the desirable competence that now enables him to live retired.

On the 11th of August, 1866, Mr. Hartman was married to Mrs. Fredericka Kircher, the widow of Michael Kircher and a daughter of Frederick and Rosina (Oltman) Smith. By her former marriage Mrs. Hartman had one daughter, Louisa. Her first husband died in April, 1866. Her parents departed this life in Germany, her father's death occurring in 1833 when he was seventy-three years of age, while her mother died in 1861 at the age of sixty-seven years. In their family were three children but Mrs. Hartman is the only one now living.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hartman are members of the Evangelical Lutheran church and in politics he is a stalwart republican, thoroughly in sympathy with the principles of the party. While residing upon his farm he served as road commissioner. He has been a resident of the county for forty-seven years and his wife for forty-six years, and they are well known in the community, being much esteemed by reason of their genuine worth.

DAVID H. LINGEL.

David H. Lingel, whose activity and energies are concentrated upon the conduct and development of a successful grocery business at the corner of Thirteenth avenue and Fourth street in Sterling, is a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, having been born near Chambersburg on the 14th of April, 1851, his parents being John and Frances (Finnefrock) Lingel, who were likewise natives of the same county. The family was an old one of Pennsylvania, for the paternal grandfather lived in Franklin county and died there when a young man. His wife, Mrs. Barbara (Moffat) Lingel, long survived him and passed away in Sterling at the ripe old age of eighty-three years. The maternal grandfather, John Finnefrock, also died in the Keystone state when a comparatively young man.

John Lingel, father of our subject, early learned and followed the shoemaker's trade, while later he became a farmer and subsequently engaged in house painting and paper hanging. He came to Sterling in the fall of 1864 and there resided until 1905, when he went to Chicago, where he now makes his home. His wife, however, died in 1866 in the faith of the Lutheran church, of which she was a member, while Mr. Lingel belonged to the United Brethren church in former years but is now a Methodist. For his second wife he married Maria Kissell. Six children were born of the first marriage: David H.; Catharine, the wife of A. N. Mallory, of Chicago; Anna, the wife of William Starr, of Lamoille, Illinois; Emma, living in Sterling; John F., of this city; and Sadie, the wife of E. H. Mariott, of Lamoille, Illinois. By the second marriage the father had two children: Mabel, now the wife of William Smart, of Sterling; and Bert.

David H. Lingel was only thirteen years of age when he became a resident of Sterling and his education, begun in the common schools of Pennsylvania, was supplemented by the two years' study in the schools of Sterling. He then began clerking in a grocery store and spent four years in that way. He was afterward employed as a salesman in a clothing store until April, 1907, with the exception of two years devoted to painting. For fourteen years he was in the employ of Isaac Wolf, with whom he continued until the death of Mr. Wolf, when he embarked in business on his own account in April, 1907, establishing a grocery store at the corner of Thirteenth avenue and Fourth street. Already he has secured a liberal patronage and he has a neat, attractive and well equipped store, in which he is meeting with well merited success.

On the 15th of June, 1875, Mr. Lingel was married to Miss Jennie E. Little, a daughter of William and Agnes (Porter) Little. They have two children: William J., who is with his father in the store; and Agnes Lillian, the wife of Martin M. Wasley, a resident of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Lingel are members of the First Methodist Episcopal church and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. The only office that he has ever held was that of tax collector in 1884, his aspirations having been in other directions than in the line of officeholding. For forty-three years he has lived in Sterling and is well known in its business circles as a man ever reliable in trade interests and at the same time possessing a spirit of marked enterprise and diligence.

JOHN F. LeFEVRE.

John F. LeFevre has followed the plow over certain districts of Sterling which constitute a beautiful residence portion of the city. He has made his home in Whiteside county since 1847 or for a period of more than sixty years and is therefore largely familiar with the events which have shaped its history and molded its policy. He has passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on the 1st of January, 1828. The family comes of French ancestry. The grandfather, Peter LeFevre, was born in Pennsylvania and was a physician and surgeon. He married Miss Mary LeFevre and they became the parents of four children. After the death of the first wife Dr. LeFevre married Elizabeth Abersticher but there were no children by that marriage.

John W. LeFevre, one of the four children of Dr. Peter LeFevre, was reared in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and began the study of medicine but gave up the idea of becoming a representative of that profession and turned his attention to farming. He married Mary Esbenshed, also a native of Lancaster county and a daughter of Daniel Esbenshed, who was born in Germany, whence he came to America, settling in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. He was a tanner by trade and owned and conducted a large tannery. He married Elizabeth LeFevre and lived to the advanced age of ninety-three years, while his wife died at the age of eighty-eight years. They were the parents of twelve children, including Mary Esbenshed. Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. John W. LeFevre they continued residents of Pennsylvania until 1847, when they came westward to Illinois, settling in Sterling, where the father lived retired. He died in 1872 when about seventy-five years of age, being born in 1797, and his wife passed away in 1861 at the age of sixty-five years. They were consistent members of the Methodist church and Mr. LeFevre served as a school director and was a warm friend of the cause of education. Unto him and his wife were born four sons and two daughters but only two are now living, the sister being Mrs. Eliza M. Miller, the widow of Joseph Miller, of Sterling, and now eighty-eight years of age.

John F. LeFevre lived in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, upon the home farm until nineteen years of age and attended the district schools. He then accompanied his parents on their removal westward to Sterling, where he has resided continuously since, his residence now standing in one of the fine districts of the town. He formerly carried on the work of the farm, for this district was a part of his father's farm, which extended a half mile to the west. It is now covered with good dwellings, business houses, schools and churches and is the home of an enlightened and cultured people. Reared to the occupation of farming, Mr. LeFevre carried on that pursuit for many years or until 1891, but is now retired, enjoying a well earned rest.

In 1855 was celebrated the marriage of John F. LeFevre and Miss Annie Good, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Snyder) Good. They became the parents of one daughter, Katie, now deceased, who was the first wife of Frank Eisele and died leaving two children, of whom one, John Eisele, is still living. For his second wife Frank Eisele chose Miss Marie Franc Price. Mr. LeFevre now makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Eisele. After losing his first wife in 1880, he married Miss Margaret Lytle, a daughter of Joseph and Lucy Lytle, of Philadelphia. His second wife died in 1893.

Mr. LeFevre is a Lutheran in religious faith and is well known in the Odd Fellows society, belonging to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., also to the Canton and the Rebekahs. His political allegiance has been given to the republican party since its organization. He has lived in Sterling for sixty years and has seen the city develop from a mere hamlet, while the county has been converted from an almost unbroken wilderness into one of the rich agricultural districts of the state. He has rejoiced in what has been accomplished and in former years bore an active part in the work of development. His memory goes back to the time when the countryside was starred with millions of wild flowers in June and in December was covered with one unbroken sheet of dazzling snow. Considerable wild game was to be had and it was only here and there that a settlement had been made showing that the seeds of civilization had been planted that have in the course of years transformed this into a splendid district.

ARCHIBALD KNOX.

Archibald Knox was born at Aurora, Erie county, New York, September 11, 1827, and his life record covered the span of years to May 4, 1898, when he passed away at his home in Mount Pleasant township. His parents were James and Amy (Martin) Knox, who came to Whiteside county in the fall of 1839, only three years after the Black Hawk war was fought, whereby the domination of the Indian race here was forever ended. However, there were still many evidences of Indian occupancy and this great state had but a very small population compared with the number of its residents at the present time. Large tracts of land were unclaimed and uncultivated and the

forests were uncut. The parents, journeying over land from New York, settled at Prophetstown, and were residents of this county until called to their final rest. They had a family of twelve children. James K., the father, born January 8, 1791, in Dover township, Dutchess county, New York, died in Mount Pleasant township, this county, September 24, 1860, while his wife, born in Grand Isle, Vermont, January 19, 1800, died February 9, 1866. Their children were as follows: William, born in Buford township, Dutchess county, New York, June 2, 1817, died in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, Illinois, December 20, 1884. Martin, born February 9, 1819, in New York, died at Brownville, California, July 25, 1884. Allison, born in Haldeman county, New York, March 3, 1821, died in Mount Pleasant township, this county, October 23, 1882. Peter, born in the district of Gore, Canada, April 4, 1823, died May 2, 1875, in California. James, also a native of Canada, born July 30, 1825, died in this county, September 11, 1873. Archibald, born in Aurora, New York, September 11, 1827, died in Mount Pleasant township, this county, May 4, 1898. Henry L., born in Aurora, New York, December 27, 1829, died in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, January 5, 1886. Lydia, born in Erie county, New York, September 25, 1831, is the wife of Benjamin Lathe, a resident of Morrison. John J., born in Aurora, New York, January 23, 1833, resides in Mount Pleasant township. Mary, born March 16, 1837, at Morrison, Illinois, became the wife of Byron McIntyre and died at Yankton, South Dakota, March 17, 1899. Allen, born in Morrison, Illinois, May 3, 1840, was a soldier of the Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry and lives at the Soldiers Home at Quincy, Illinois. Lewis, born November 8, 1842, at Morrison, was a member of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry in the Civil war and died November 30, 1906.

Archibald Knox was but eight years of age when brought by his parents to Illinois and was reared amid the wild scenes and environments of pioneer life. He resided here continuously until his death, with the exception of a brief period of two years spent in California. He accompanied four of his brothers as they journeyed over the plains and through the mountain passes to the gold fields and for two years remained on the Pacific coast, but not finding the wealth that he anticipated he returned to Illinois to take from the soil in another way the prosperity that ultimately crowned his efforts. As a claim from the government he took up the homestead on section 23, Mount Pleasant township, that is still owned by his widow, filing his claim at the land office in Dixon, whereby he secured one hundred and twenty acres at a dollar and a quarter per acre. Today it is worth at least one hundred fold that amount. Practically throughout his entire life Mr. Knox carried on general farming, turning the first furrows upon his place and bringing the fields into a high state of fertility, so that year after year he gathered good crops and in due course of time accumulated a handsome competence.

At Prophetstown, on the 1st of September, 1856, Mr. Knox was united in marriage to Miss Minerva Garrison, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, born June 16, 1837, a daughter of Philip and Phoebe (Eastman) Garrison, both of whom were natives of New York, where they were reared. They came to Whiteside county in 1854, settling at Prophetstown, where they be-

came identified with farming interests. The father purchased land there and made the place his home until his demise in 1871, when he was sixty-nine years of age. His wife survived him for two years and died in 1873, at the age of seventy-four. They were the parents of seven children. Esther, who was the wife of W. R. Stone, died in June, 1898. Emanuel, who was a member of the Seventy-fifth Illinois Infantry in the Civil war, died at the Soldiers Home in Quincy, Illinois, March 8, 1901. Mary A., who became the wife of William Waite, of New York, and died in Erie, Illinois, January 25, 1902. Henry died in Mount Pleasant township, December 21, 1906. Mrs. Lucinda Pratt is living in Lyndon, at the age of seventy-three years. Mrs. Minerva Knox is the next of the family. William, who was a member of the Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry, died soon after the war.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Knox was blessed with four children. Elizabeth, the eldest, is the wife of David Barnum, of Morrison, and has two children by a former marriage, Carl and Albert Myers. Albert, who operates the home farm for his mother, married Miss Lena Tjarks, a native of Round Grove, this county, and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. U. H. Tjarks. They have one daughter, Mabel. Emeline Knox became the wife of R. A. Reynolds, of Morrison, and has three children, Ray, Lola and Freda. Arthur married Margaret Doyle and resides in Union Grove township. He has three children, James, Mildred and Irene.

Archibald Knox staunchly upheld republican principles but was not a politician. He belonged to the Methodist Protestant church and in all his life upheld principles of truth, justice and honor. Coming to Illinois in early pioneer times, he was for many years closely associated with the growth and improvement of this part of the state and could relate many interesting incidents of the early days. He lived here at a time when the homes were largely log cabins, when wild game was to be had in abundance and when Indians were still sometimes seen, but the white race reclaimed the region for the uses of civilization and Mr. Knox bore his full share in the work of general improvement. All who knew him esteemed him for his many stalwart characteristics and his name is still honored among the many who were his friends.

CHRISTIAN NELSON.

Christian Nelson, who for a quarter of a century has been a prominent representative of the industrial interests of Morrison, his business activity and enterprise proving factors in the commercial development and consequent prosperity of the city, is a native of Denmark, his birth having occurred in Copenhagen in 1847. His parents were Peter and Anna Nelson, also natives of that country, where the father followed the harnessmaking trade.

Christian Nelson pursued his education in the public schools of his native country but his opportunities were somewhat limited and he is largely self-educated, gaining knowledge through experience, observation and reading. He early learned the trade of a carriage body maker in Denmark. The fav-

orable reports which reached him concerning America and its business advantages and opportunities led him to seek a home in the new world and, bidding adieu to his native land in 1869, he crossed the Atlantic, locating after a few months in Morrison, where he worked at his trade in the employ of Ely & Whitcomb until 1882, when he opened a shop of his own for the manufacture of buggies. For the past three years he has been making a specialty of the Nelson breaking cart, which is now largely sold in every state in the Union, while shipments have also been made to England. His business has gradually developed into an important industrial concern, furnishing employment to a large number of workmen and the enterprise is proving very profitable.

In 1875 Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Mary Ohlinger, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1856, a daughter of George W. and Sarah (Wilt) Ohlinger. Her father was a veteran of the Civil war and in 1867 came to Whiteside county, settling in Newton township. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have become the parents of five children: Lorena, the wife of Dr. Herbert Kennedy, a dentist of Morrison; Malvern R., who follows the profession of dentistry in Chicago; Nellie, who is employed as a stenographer in Chicago; and Edith and Ruth, both at home.

The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Nelson is connected fraternally with the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but he has no aspiration for office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business interests. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world, for in this land, where opportunity and ambition are unhampered by caste or class, he has gradually worked his way upward, meeting with the success which ever crowns indefatigable effort guided by sound judgment.

EARL S. ELLITHORPE.

Earl S. Ellithorpe makes his home in Prophetstown, but within sight of his farm, which is a valuable property near the village, indicating in its well-kept appearance his careful supervision and practical methods. With the exception of a year spent in Iowa, he has resided continuously in this county since July, 1840, being at that time a young lad in his seventh year. He was born November 21, 1833, in Edinburg, Saratoga county, New York, a son of Sampson and Eliza (Wight) Ellithorpe. The father was also a native of Saratoga county, New York, while the mother, who was born in Vermont, went to the Empire state in her girlhood days. The paternal grandfather, Wyley Ellithorpe, was likewise born in Saratoga county, where he spent his entire life on a farm. His father, however, was a native of the Green Mountain state, whence he removed to New York at an early period in the development of Saratoga county. The first American ancestors of the family came from England and were connected with the early development of the Green Mountain state. In the fall of 1839 Sampson Ellithorpe and his uncle Solo-



MR. AND MRS. E. S. ELITHORPE

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mon came to the middle west, visited Whiteside county and secured a claim of about one thousand acres upon which they each built a hewed log house in Hume township, after which they returned to New York. Owing to the early death of Sampson Ellithorpe, however, the claims reverted to the government and the family never occupied the house. Solomon Ellithorpe became a prominent man in his native county in New York. As stated, it was in 1840 when the parents of our subject left the east to establish a home in Illinois. They traveled by canal boat to Buffalo, thence around the lakes to Chicago and by team and wagon to Whiteside county, reaching their destination in July. The father died, however, on the 5th of September and a month later a sister of our subject passed away. All of the others of the family were ill with fever and ague and Earl S. Ellithorpe and his aunt were the only ones well enough to go to the father's grave, while Dr. Plympton, the attending physician, preached the funeral sermon. With the Crocker family Mrs. Ellithorpe resided in the home on Coon creek until the fall of 1841, when she removed to the neighborhood in which is found the farm of Earl S. Ellithorpe. In the spring of 1842 she became the wife of Marvin Frary and soon afterward they removed to the farm in Portland township, where they resided until the spring of 1845, when they returned to Prophetstown township. After residing upon a farm there for ten years they removed to another farm in the same neighborhood and the death of Mrs. Frary occurred in Lyndon township, August 4, 1866. By her first marriage she had five children: Wyley, who died in infancy; Bethiah, who became the wife of Dr. H. C. Donaldson and died in Denver, Colorado, while her husband has also passed away; Earl S., of this review; Alpheus, who died July 11, 1854, when seventeen years of age; and Lucelia, who died in childhood. By her second marriage Mrs. Frary had a daughter, Cordelia, the wife of F. N. Brewer, at whose home in Lyndon township the mother died.

Arriving in Whiteside county in his seventh year, Earl S. Ellithorpe was here reared amid the scenes and environments of pioneer life and shared with the family in all the hardships and privations incident to the settlement of the frontier. His educational privileges were rather limited owing to the primitive condition of the schools at that day, but his training at farm labor was not meager, as he began to assist in the work of the fields as soon as old enough to handle the plow. He continued to reside in Prophetstown township for eighteen years and in the meantime was married. On the 27th of March, 1856, was celebrated the marriage of Earl S. Ellithorpe and Miss Mary Jane Averill, who was born in Highgate, Vermont, February 1, 1835, a daughter of Mark R. and Ada (Durin) Averill, who were also natives of that state, whence they removed westward to Illinois in 1852, settling on a farm in Prophetstown township in the spring of 1854. The farm upon which Mr. Averill settled was purchased by Mr. Ellithorpe in the fall of 1887, but he previously cultivated and rented it for many years and in the meantime had made substantial improvements thereon. Mr. Averill in his business affairs met with a gratifying measure of prosperity and at his death left an estate valued at about eighty thousand dollars. He was widely recognized as one of the prominent and influential men in the community, pos-

sessing marked business ability and executive force and displaying sound judgment in placing his investments. His family numbered eight children: Mrs. Ellithorpe; Wales, deceased; Anna, the wife of D. K. Smith, of Prophetstown; Harriet A., the widow of C. A. Sanford and a resident of Chicago; A. T., a banker, living at Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Volney, a fruit farmer of Wrights, California; Lewis, deceased; and Ella, who died at the age of eight years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ellithorpe was born but one child, a daughter, Luanna, who was born October 22, 1862, and died August 10, 1895.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellithorpe began their domestic life upon a farm belonging to her father and after renting that land for seven years they took up their abode in Hume township in 1863. Mr. Ellithorpe there purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he cultivated for two years, when, having opportunity to sell to good advantage, he sold it and returned to the Averill homestead. In 1887 he removed to Wheatland, Iowa, where he built an elevator and engaged in the grain and lumber business for about a year in partnership with his brother-in-law, C. H. Sanford under the firm style of Sanford & Ellithorpe. Returning to this county, he became owner of his present farm, comprising four hundred and fifty acres of rich and valuable land, constituting one of the best farms of the community. It is lacking in no modern accessory or convenience found upon the model farm of the twentieth century and from it he derives a gratifying annual income. The land lies on sections 6, 31 and 32, Prophetstown township. He gave personal supervision to the work of the fields until 1885, when he rented the land, but continued to reside thereon until 1906, when he took up his abode in the village. For many years he was successfully engaged in stock raising, making a specialty of sheep, and was one of the most prominent sheep raisers of this part of the state.

In his political views Mr. Ellithorpe has been a stalwart republican since 1856, when he proudly cast his first ballot for John C. Fremont, the first standard-bearer of the party. He and his wife attend the Congregational church, of which Mrs. Ellithorpe is a member. Since his retirement from active business life they have traveled quite extensively, spending six months on the Pacific coast in 1885, and again visiting the far west in 1897. He has made altogether five trips to California. In 1903 they traveled abroad, visiting many points of modern, historic and scenic interest in the old world, and spent one winter in Mexico. Mr. Ellithorpe has also made extensive hunting trips in the northwest and travel and the chase have always been his chief sources of pleasure and recreation. As the years passed Mr. Ellithorpe prospered in his undertakings and the success he has achieved is well merited. He placed his dependence upon safe, substantial qualities, realizing that energy and determination are the basis of advancement. In business affairs he has at all times been found reliable, nor has he ever been known to take advantage of the necessities of another in trade transactions. Coming to this county, in an early epoch in its history, he has watched its growth and progress through two-thirds of a century and has been an element in its development and substantial improvement. The qualities he has displayed,

whether in citizenship, in business or in private life, have been such as to win for him the kindly esteem and respect of his fellowmen and his example may well serve to inspire and encourage others, showing that persistency of purpose can win success and that an honored name may be gained simultaneously therewith.

MICHAEL C. GROVE.

A life of activity and enterprise has gained for Mr. Grove the financial independence that now enables him to live retired. He was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, August 14, 1857, his parents being John and Margaret (Leininger) Grove, natives of Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather, George Grove, was also a native of that state and a farmer by occupation. He died there when about eighty years of age and his wife also passed away at about the same age. John Grove carried on farming throughout his entire life and about 1893 came to Illinois, settling in Sterling, where he made his home until a recent date. He is now living at Rock Falls. He was drafted for service in the Civil war but hired a substitute to go in his place. Both he and his wife are Lutherans in religious faith and are widely and favorably known in this locality. Of their eleven children eight are yet living, namely: George, Louis, John, Michael C., Solomon, Charles, Murray and Wallace.

Michael C. Grove was reared upon the home farm in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the country schools and when not busy with his text-books could often be seen following the plow. He was a young man of about twenty-four years when in 1881 he came to Illinois, settling in Sterling. Here he began work as a farm hand by the month but thinking to find commercial pursuits more congenial and profitable, after a short time he entered the employ of the Keystone Manufacturing Company. In the following year he began clerking in a grocery store, where he was employed for two years, and later he secured a clerkship with J. R. Bell & Son, dealers in shoes and clothing. He continued with them for four years, after which he embarked in business on his own account in partnership with H. J. Mueller, the firm name of Mueller & Grove being assumed. This relation was maintained for nine years, after which Mr. Grove sold out his interest and since that time he has bought and sold real estate. However, he is practically living retired, although to some extent he yet deals in property.

On the 14th of November, 1882, occurred the marriage of Mr. Grove and Miss Sadie Gingrich, a daughter of Cyrus and Emma (Eberley) Gingrich. They have one child, Bessie May. Mrs. Grove's parents were natives of Pennsylvania and they had three children, J. Elmer, Cyrus and Sadie. The father was a farmer of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and died there, while the mother, who still survives, is living in Chambersburg. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Grove was Joseph Gingrich, a farmer and a native of Pennsyl-

vania, who died at an advanced age. His wife, Mrs. Sarah (Gantz) Gingrich, also lived to an old age and they had two children. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Grove was Jacob Eberley, who was born in the Keystone state, followed farming and afterward conducted a sawmill. His wife was Mrs. Hannah (Reed) Eberley, who was about fifty years of age at the time of her death.

Mr. and Mrs. Grove are members of St. John's Lutheran church and he is also identified with Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., having become a member of this order when twenty-one years of age. His political preference is for the republican party. He resides at No. 701 Second avenue, which residence he erected in 1898 and he also owns several other residence properties and business houses in Sterling, having built eighteen dwellings in this city. He has thus contributed in substantial measure to its upbuilding and improvement and may well be classed among its representative and worthy men. He began work in this city with only five dollars in his pocket and today he owns a number of residences and good business property, which stands as the visible evidence of his life of industry and careful management. He possesses the strong determination which enables him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor, and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his county.

W. W. BLEAN.

W. W. Blean, a retired farmer living in Albany township and now filling the office of chairman of the county board of supervisors, was born in Newton township, Whiteside county, February 5, 1856. His parents were James and Hetty J. (Weakley) Blean, who were natives of Pennsylvania. In the paternal line the family is of Scotch-Irish lineage, while the maternal ancestry was German. The grandfather, John Blean, coming to Illinois in 1845, settled in Newton township. The members of his family were: Robert, who settled in Garden Plain township; Jane M., who became the wife of Robert Allen, of Ohio, and returned to that state, her home being now in Wayne county, Ohio; Jesse K., who was a farmer of Newton township and supervisor for many years but is now deceased; James A., the father of our subject; and Elizabeth, the wife of William Mitchell, an old settler of Newton township. The father of this family, John Blean, was accidentally killed in 1862 by falling from a hay mow. The maternal grandfather of W. W. Blean was William Weakley. He never came to this county but his family made their way here prior to the Civil war. His children were: Peter Joseph; Hetty, who became Mrs. Blean; Mary, the wife of Robert W. Sleightmaker, of Peabody, Kansas; and William, who enlisted as a member of Company B, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served for four years, or during the Civil war, participating in many hard fought battles. He yet resides in this state. James Blean came to Whiteside county in 1845 with his father and together they purchased two hundred and fifteen acres

of unimproved land in Newton township, where he began the development of a farm and made his home until 1861. In that year he assisted in raising Company B, of the Seventy-fifth Illinois Regiment of Volunteers, and was elected second lieutenant, under Captain Whalen. With courageous spirit and undoubted loyalty he went to the front and laid down his life upon the altar of his country, being killed at Perryville in his first engagement, his company suffering heavy losses there. He left a widow and four children, the eldest being W. W. Blean, of this review. The others are: Lizzie K., the wife of John Hawk; John C., who is living in Newton township; and James A., of Erie. Mrs. Blean still survives and now makes her home with her daughter.

W. W. Blean was educated in the country schools of his native township and for a short time continued his studies in Sterling. He being the eldest of the family, the burden of the family support largely fell upon him and from an early age he assisted in providing for his mother, sister and younger brothers. He was but seven years of age at the time of his father's death. As his years and strength increased, he more and more largely assumed the labors and responsibilities of the home farm, which he continued to operate up to the time of his marriage. In 1882, at the age of twenty-five years, he married and then purchased a farm adjoining the old homestead. As he did not have the ready money, he had to go in debt for this, buying one hundred acres, for which the purchase price was forty dollars per acre. As the years passed he prospered in his undertakings, discharged his financial obligations and has since added one hundred acres to the original farm, having a place which is today worth one hundred dollars per acre. He has improved this place with a house, barns and other modern equipments and accessories until it is today one of the best improved farms of Newton township. Mr. Blean also owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Rock Island county and thus from his property he derives a good income. While upon the farm he always engaged in buying and shipping stock and this materially added to his financial resources.

About 1879 Mr. Blean was elected collector of Newton township, which office he accepted and filled for six years. Some time afterward he was elected assessor of the same township and served in this position for three years. In 1902 he removed to Albany and in the year 1905 was elected county supervisor from Albany township, discharging his duties in that position so capably that he was re-elected in 1907.

In April, 1882, Mr. Blean was married to Miss Mary E. Efner, the daughter of Edward and Amanda (Stagg) Efner. Her father was killed in the tornado which swept over the town June 3, 1860. His house was taken from the foundation and he was killed while looking for something that he might put over his daughter, Mrs. Blean, in order to protect her. The other members of the family were left in the basement of the house unhurt. Mr. Efner and his wife had but two children, the elder being Delia, the wife of Wilson Brake, of Sioux City, Iowa.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Blean have been born seven children, of whom six survive while Harold has passed away. Those yet living are: Hettie E., the

wife of Newell K. Senior, of Garden Plain; Mary E., who is a teacher; Leonard, who is farming in Rock Island county, Illinois; Albert, Cora and Eva, at home.

Mr. Blean is a member of the Woodmen Camp of Albany and also a member of Keystone Lodge, No. 114, K. P. The family all belong to the Presbyterian church and the members of the household are greatly esteemed, while to them is extended the hospitality of the best homes in this section of the county. Mr. Blean is one of the progressive business men of his part of Whiteside county. In addition to being a most successful and enterprising farmer, he is interested in a number of other projects. Of the Albany State Bank he is a director and in business circles his judgment is regarded as conservative and sound. He is a liberal man toward all public enterprises of interest to the county and his labors in its behalf have been far-reaching and beneficial.

JAMES B. McDOWELL.

James B. McDowell, who is living retired in Sterling after many years' connection with agricultural pursuits in Whiteside county, belongs to that class of men who owe their advancement and success to their own efforts. He has labored persistently for the achievement of prosperity and the years have brought the merited reward of his diligence.

He was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, October 19, 1839, and was of Scotch descent. His paternal grandfather, John McDowell, lived for a time in England and thence crossed the Atlantic to Pennsylvania. His last days were spent in Franklin county, that state, where he died in middle life, while his wife was well advanced in years when called to her final rest. Their family numbered five sons, including John McDowell, who was born in Pennsylvania and was a school teacher in early manhood, at one time being employed as teacher of the high school of Greencastle, Pennsylvania. Later he became a farmer and always lived in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, his death occurring in Antrim township in 1854, when he was in his fifty-sixth year. He was always deeply interested in the cause of public education and was a member of the examining board for teachers. He also took an active part in politics and was a supporter of the whig party. In early manhood he wedded Sarah Ann Mowen, also a native of the Keystone state. Her father was likewise born in that state and was of high German descent. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McDowell were born three sons and two daughters but only two are now living, the younger being John W., who resides upon the old homestead in Pennsylvania.

In taking up the personal history of James B. McDowell, we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in this locality. He was reared upon a farm in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and acquired his education in the public schools there, after which he continued to assist his father until John McDowell was called to the home beyond. Fol-

Following his mother's death he worked out by the month as a farm hand for two years and subsequently learned and followed the wagonmaker's trade but eventually abandoned that pursuit and resumed farming. In 1864 he came to Sterling and for one year worked at farm labor in the employ of the Keefer brothers. He next rented land and began farming on his own account, living upon a farm in Hopkins township that belonged to his wife's parents. For over forty years he continued in the tilling of the soil and the cultivation of the crops best adapted to the climate. For the past three years he has lived retired in Sterling, for his activity and enterprise in former years brought to him a competence that supplies him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

On the 2d of February, 1870, Mr. McDowell was united in marriage to Miss Eleanor Reed, daughter of Benjamin and Harriet (Clark) Reed, who were natives of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and became early settlers of Whiteside county, Illinois, Mr. Reed purchasing land in Hopkins township, where he located in 1854. He was a son of Michael and Catharine (Kaiser) Reed, natives of Franklin county, Pennsylvania. They lived to an old age and reared a large family. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. McDowell were Samuel and Margaret (Grubb) Clark, who were also well advanced in years when called to the home beyond. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Reed were born ten children, five sons and five daughters, of whom eight are now living: Eleanor, the wife of James B. McDowell; Emily, the wife of Joseph Bednar, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Kate, the wife of Joseph Lockhart, of Eskridge, Kansas; John, who is living in Jordan township, this county; Clara, the wife of Frank Taylor, of Sterling; Frank, a twin brother of Clara, now at home with his father; Reuben, who is living in Las Vegas, New Mexico; and Edna, at home.

Mr. and Mrs. McDowell have become the parents of five daughters: Mabel C., who is bookkeeper for the M. & K. Clothing Company and was formerly a school teacher; Edna H., the wife of William J. Baird, a farmer of Hopkins township, living near Galt, by whom she has two children, Ella Mabel and Evelyn Ora; Nellie B., who is a stenographer for the Grand DeTour Plow Company at Dixon, Illinois, and was formerly a school teacher for five years; Mary G., the wife of William H. Rees, by whom she has one son, Clark McDowell Rees, and they make their home with her parents; Josephine B., the wife of Burton Harrison, by whom she has four children, Eleanor, Mildred, Joseph and Nellie.

Mr. and Mrs. McDowell are earnest Christian people and devoted members of the Presbyterian church. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and he is entitled to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, by reason of the fact that he served with the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. He enlisted August 6, 1862, becoming a member of Company D, with which he served for one year. He participated in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Shepardstown and various skirmishes and while at the front was a faithful defender of the Union cause. He now owns a fine home in Sterling at No. 311 Seventh avenue, where he is living in well earned ease. His life

record proves what may be accomplished by determination and persistent effort when guided by sound judgment. His life history is another illustration of the fact that success is not the result of genius, as held by many, but is the outcome of clear judgment, experience and determined purpose.

WILLIAM ANNAN.

There have been no startling or exciting chapters in the life history of William Annan, but the thoughtful student will find therein lessons that may be profitably followed. He is accounted an enterprising and reliable business man and a worthy citizen and as such enjoys the esteem and confidence of his fellow townsmen.

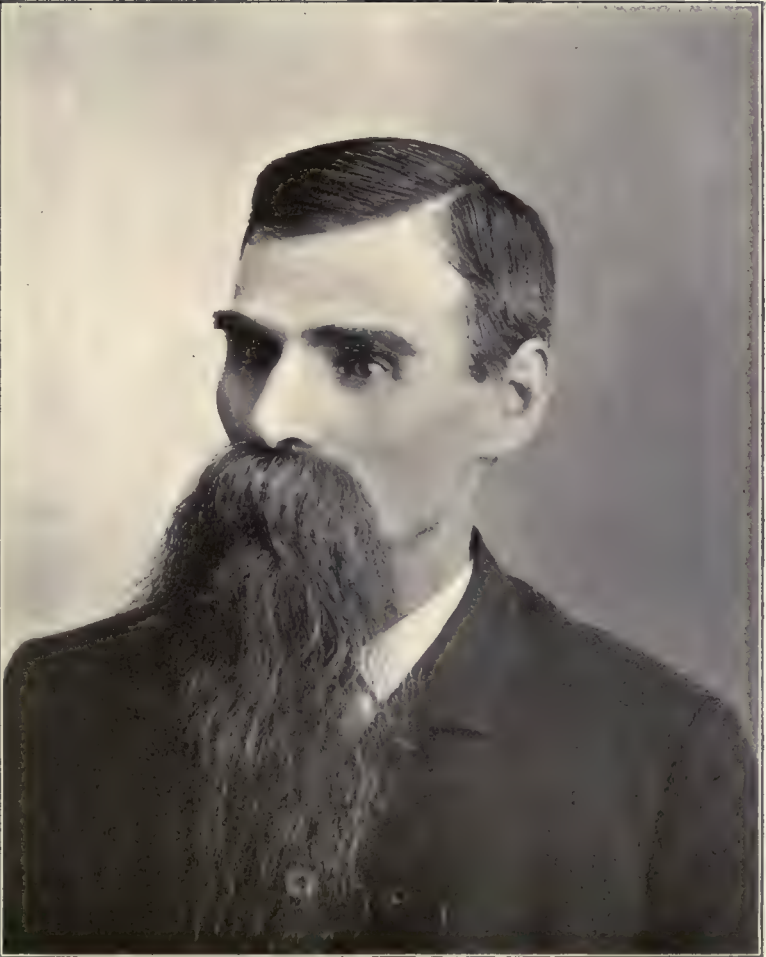
He was born near Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1848, and was the second in order of birth in the family of William and Elizabeth (Murray) Annan, who were likewise natives of Scotland. The father, who was born in Aberdeen, became a machinist and a successful man in the business world. On coming to the United States on the 4th of July, 1849, he proceeded at once to Whiteside county, Illinois, but soon afterward located in Jacobstown, Illinois, where he assisted in building a mill. He afterward took up his abode at Unionville, where in connection with John A. Robertson he built a stone mill, which is still standing and is operated by his son William. In 1868 he purchased Mr. Robertson's interest in the mill and employed a practical miller to operate the plant, while he managed its business affairs. He died in 1893 at the age of sixty-three years, while his wife, surviving until February, 1903, passed away at the age of eighty-seven years. Both were consistent members of the Presbyterian church and enjoyed in large measure the friendship of those with whom they came in contact. Their family numbered two sons and two daughters, namely: Barbara, who became the wife of Edwin St. John, an agriculturist of Dakota, and died at the age of sixty-one years; William, of this review; Catherine, who makes her home in Unionville and has attained the age of fifty-five; and James, who departed this life at Atlanta, Georgia, when he was twenty-one years of age.

William Annan was reared in Unionville and attended the village schools, also pursuing his studies in the Davenport Commercial College. He learned the trade of a machinist under the direction of his father and from the age of twenty-one years has worked in the mill, becoming proprietor upon the mother's death. In early life he thoroughly acquainted himself with the business, and his enterprise and diligence constitute the basis of the desirable success which he is now enjoying. He manufactures an excellent quality of flour and finds a ready sale on the market for his product.

In 1876 Mr. Annan was united in marriage to Miss Marian Ely, who was born in the state of New York in 1852. Her parents settled in De Kalb county, Illinois, at an early day, taking up their abode upon a farm, which remained their place of residence until they were called to their final home. Mr. and Mrs. Annan have five children: Frank W., a railroad conductor,



ANNAN MILL, UNIONVILLE



WILLIAM ANNAN

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who resides in Chicago and has one child; George, at home; Floyd J., who resides in Morrison and also has one child; Le Roy M., who is employed by the Santa Fe Railroad Company in Independence, Kansas; and Mary, at home.

Mrs. Annan is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Annan belongs to the Fraternal Tribunes. He is quite well known as a local leader in the ranks of the republican party and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called him to public office. He is now township clerk of Union Grove township, having first been elected to the office in 1885, since which time he has been the incumbent—a service of almost twenty-three years. His long connection with the office stands in incontrovertible proof of his fidelity and his capability in the discharge of his duties. He is also township treasurer and has filled this position since 1893. In everything pertaining to the welfare of the community he is deeply interested and his cooperation can always be counted upon to further any movement for the benefit of the public. In business affairs, too, he has been thoroughly reliable and trustworthy and in Whiteside county his is an honored name.

RIPLEY STAUFFER.

Ripley Stauffer, a resident farmer of Jordan township, living on section 23, where he is carrying on the work of the fields in practical and progressive manner, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, June 13, 1839, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Ripley) Stauffer, who were also natives of Lancaster county and descendants of the pioneer Dutch families that settled in the rich farming valleys of Lancaster county. The father was married twice, and by his first wife had the following children: Amos, Simon, Rudolph, John, Emanuel, Mrs. Becca Landis, Catherine, Leah and Susan. The father died in 1852, when more than seventy years of age. Mrs. Stauffer, the mother, was married twice, and by her first husband, William Rummel, had three children: Christina; William, deceased; and John.

Ripley Stauffer is the only child of the parents' second marriage. At the age of ten years he commenced to battle with the world, working at different places until eighteen years of age, when he entered upon an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade with his cousin, Zachariah Witmer, in his native town. Three years later he was employed as a journeyman there. He was married October 16, 1882, to Mary Ann Hess, daughter of Michael and Mary M. (Eshleman) Hess, natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, who in 1868 came to Whiteside county and settled in Jordan township, where they spent their remaining days. Mrs. Stauffer was among the eldest of twelve children: Benjamin, deceased; Zachariah and Jeremiah, twins, living in Whiteside county; Jacob, residing in Kansas; Ely, of Sterling; Emanuel, who lives in Jordan township; Emeline, the wife of H.

Mellinger, who resides in this part of the county; Michael, a gold seeker, who died in Alaska; Susan, the wife of Jacob Truth, of Jordan township; Ephraim, who is extensively engaged in contracting in Dixon, Illinois; and Theodore, who is in charge of the correspondence schools at Scranton, Pennsylvania, and lives at Elgin, Illinois. Mrs. Stauffer was born in Manor township, Lancaster county, March 19, 1843, and was reared and educated in Conestoga township of that county. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children, but Lizzie, the eldest, died July 24, 1885, at the age of twenty-two years. Susie is at home, and William is a resident of Stewart, Lee county.

The family home is on section 23, Jordan township, and is a well improved farm, indicating the careful supervision and practical methods of the owner, who has lived a life of activity and enterprise and is today numbered among the successful, leading farmers of the community.

It will be interesting in this connection to note something of the history of Michael E. Hess, whose experiences in the northwest are proof of the fact that "Truth is stranger than fiction." He was one of the pioneer gold hunters of Alaska and had some wonderful adventures. He left his home in Sterling in 1876 and after a number of years spent in the western part of the United States he went to Alaska, where he worked as a gold miner for eight years. He was only a youth of eighteen when he left home. Hearing flattering descriptions of the Yukon country, he decided, after careful deliberation, to go there, and in May, 1886, started in a canoe from Juneau, Alaska, bound for the Yukon river. His course carried him through Lynn's Channel to Chilkoot, which he reached in three days. There he met a Mr. Everets, who had been sent by General Miles to make surveys of the White and Copper river countries. Finding that their roads were the same, they decided to travel together, starting from Chilkoot May 13. They stopped over night at Haines Mission and the next night reached Chilkoot Pass, camping at a point known as the head of canoe navigation. On the 15th they reached "The Stone Houses" at the foot of the mountain, where they were delayed for five days by storms and fogs. The fogs finally lifting, they started at midnight with some Indians whom they had met at this place and by four o'clock the following afternoon had reached Shallow lake, tired and nearly worn out, the distance traveled being about twenty miles over a very rough road. Mr. Hess rejoiced that he had reached the waters that flow into the noble Yukon, a task which he had desired to accomplish for several years. They camped at the head of the lake that night and the next morning began building a raft. The following night they crossed the lake, a favorable wind making it easy sailing, and there they found good boat timber. They waited to whipsaw lumber and the boat was finished by June 30. Having launched the boat at the head of the second lake, they started on the 1st of July with a fair wind and crossed in two days, the distance being thirty-five miles. Passing through Moos Narrows, they entered Tarkoo lake, which they crossed in two days, although it was not more than twenty-nine miles long, but the head winds were against them. Passing out of this lake down four miles of river, they entered Mud lake,

and thence proceeded down Sixty-Mile river until coming to a canyon, around which they had to pack the outfit for about a mile, while Mr. Hess took the responsibility of running the boat through the canyon. Reloading at its foot, they continued down some very rough water to the White Horse Rapids, and after careful survey, to see if a boat passage was possible, Mr. Hess and Mr. Everets finally ran the rapids in safety with the entire cargo. The canon is three miles long and were it not for the rapids steamers could approach within thirty-five miles of the coast waters at Chilkoot after entering the Yukon river at Bering Sea. Proceeding on their way, they came to Lake Labarge and entered Lewis river, floating down the stream for a number of days, when one morning they were surprised to see three white men standing on the bank. They proved to be Messrs. Boswell, Franklin and Matson, who were waiting for the waters to lower so they could engage in mining on a bar in the river. They had been making from nine to ten dollars per day and Mr. Hess arranged to work with them, while Mr. Everets continued on his journey. They worked out a bar in about twelve days, realizing five hundred and eight dollars in gold, which was the first gold taken from the Yukon river by mining. Leaving his three companions, Mr. Hess started down the Lewis river and after a few days met some Indians, who tried to explain that a steamer was coming up to trade with them, but he did not believe a steamer could run up that far and so continued alone on his journey until he met the steamer three days later. He hailed the boat and succeeded in getting on board and the steamer continued up the river until reaching the Indian camp, where they traded with the Indians. Mr. Hess next went down the river to Fort Reliance, where he remained for the winter and met his former mining companions. Their supply of food was limited and they could only get four hundred pounds of Indian flour each, which had to last a year with what rabbits they could catch. The winter passed tediously, broken only by an occasional moose hunt. In the spring of 1885 Mr. Robinson of the party, having become disgusted, started down the Yukon to leave Alaska. Mr. Hess and two companions started with hand sleds from Fort Reliance for the White river region, leaving Boswell and Frazier to prospect Stewart river. The White river expedition did not prove very successful and Mr. Hess and Mr. Matson then took a trip across the country to Tanana river, one of the largest tributaries of the Yukon. Their success was little better there and on the 9th of May, 1885, they started across the Cascade mountains, taking seventeen days for the trip. Their supply of meat being exhausted, they had to recross, but found a shorter road and made the return trip to the White river in seven days. Floating down the river on a raft, they reached Fort Reliance after an absence of two months with only twenty-five pounds of flour each. This was the summer in which the Stewart river diggings were discovered by their former associates, who at one time took out from one hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars per day. Mr. Hess did not learn of their success, however, until the spring of 1886. From Fort Robinson he and his companions drifted down the river to Fort Grant, where they decided to await the arrival of the yearly steamer, which reached that point August 14. They

then went up the Lewis river, where they could make five or six dollars per day, but as provisions were so high this did not prove a living wage. The next spring, hearing reports of the Stewart river discoveries, they started for that district, but found that others had reached there before them and secured the best diggings. Mr. Hess went to the head of the Stewart river that season and found, like in all other sections of the country, that gold was in every stream that he ever panned. He afterward floated down the river to its mouth, spending the winter at Fort Nelson, a new trading post built during the preceding summer. It was a hard winter and provisions were limited, but as he could not be content indoors Mr. Hess took a hunting trip and succeeded in killing three wolves and a lynx. With the arrival of March, 1887, came a rumor of rich diggings that had been found the previous fall on Forty-Mile creek, about one hundred and twenty miles down the Yukon. Not having much confidence in the rumor, Mr. Hess concluded to wait until the river opened and float down in a boat. Building a boat, he followed his plan, and on arriving at Forty-Mile creek took a claim and did about five hundred dollars' worth of work in trying to get some water for sluicing purposes. The attempt ended in almost complete failure, but he would not have given up had not the traders raised the price of provisions, charging seventeen dollars and a half per hundred for flour. Leaving there, Mr. Hess went to the Tanana country, where supplies were cheaper. On the way down he stopped at Porcupine river and ascended that stream one hundred and forty miles. There was some fine gold in its bed, but not enough to induce a man to work it very long. Owing to the enormous price of provisions and the shortness of the working season it was necessary to make at least ten dollars per day. Proceeding down the Yukon, he prospected on the way, finding a few bars paying from two to two and a half cents to the pan, which was a good yield. Reaching New Cloyette, situated on the Yukon eighteen miles below the mouth of the Tanana, it was now the first of September and Mr. Hess concluded to put in the winter there, having to build his own house. It was not considered a hard winter, the thermometer registering only forty-seven degrees below zero. On the 1st of April, 1888, he and a companion put their provisions on hand sleds and started on a summer's prospecting. They followed up the Yukon for about a hundred miles until they came to a good-sized stream, up which they proceeded on the ice. The ice finally broke through, however, and they were compelled to build a boat. They immediately set to work whipsawing logs and with their boat continued up the stream, prospecting as they went, but not finding gold in sufficient quantities decided to turn back. They then proceeded twenty-five miles further up the Yukon to another tributary, but did not meet with better results there after exploring about seventy-five miles. They found, however, a tusk which was nine feet long and proved to be ivory, but was decomposed. They were now compelled to wait for a steamer to come up the river, as they were out of provisions and did not care to risk going through any more hardships than necessary. From the steamer they secured a fresh supply of food. About this time news was received that a white man had been killed by Indians, and they immediately formed a

party and set out to avenge the crime, but lost a great deal of time in doing it. The Indian was guilty of a cold-blooded murder, according to his own confession, and had they neglected to punish the fellow their own lives would have been in danger.

Returning to the point where they left their goods, Mr. Hess and his companions loaded their provisions in the boat and drifted down the Yukon twenty-five miles to prospect on another creek but failed to find paying bars. By the 26th of September cold weather set in and they decided to hunt and secure a winter's supply of meat. They succeeded in killing a huge grizzly, the skin of which after being stretched and dried, measured nine feet. After packing this meat out of the mountains about four miles to where they could boat it down the river, they started for New Cloyette, which they reached on October 1st. The river was frozen over by the 26th of October and thus ended a hard summer's work without success, finding nothing to pay for it but having much experience, which forms a large part of the prospector's life. In March, 1888, they concluded to go up the Tanana river and loading their hand sleds with six hundred pounds of provisions and luggage they started from New Cloyette on the 4th of March, making their way up that stream as best they could. In gulch digging it required a man just one season to prospect a gulch thoroughly on account of the frozen ground, so they decided to look for bar diggings. With many difficulties they traveled four hundred miles before the ice broke up, May 13. By the latter part of June they had built a boat and proceeded one hundred and forty miles further up the river, where they found bars that yielded three cents to the pan, but they were not extensive enough to work. Becoming disgusted with the prospect they turned and floated down the river, prospecting some of the tributaries with like results. A little gold can be found in all parts of Alaska, but to find it in great quantities it is necessary to dig down to bed rock. They finally reached New Cloyette, after having been five hundred and forty miles up the Tanana. There Mr. Hess and his companions worked for an English missionary until the steamer arrived three weeks later and on the steamer they proceeded to Forty-mile creek, landing there the 20th of August. At this time they were much discouraged and intended leaving the interior and going to the coast, where they could perhaps find work, but a missionary asked them to build him a house and they remained and took the contract, receiving three dollars per day, which afforded them a bare living and nothing else. Flour was fifteen dollars per hundred and there were few provisions in the locality. By the 1st of February, the house was finished and Mr. Hess with his sled went up Forty Mile creek to Franklin Gulch to visit some of the boys who were wintering there and returning to the post on the 27th of the same month. After a few days rest he again went to Franklin Gulch and during the summer engaged in gulch mining. Before leaving there in the fall of 1890, he took up a claim, which is believed to contain rich deposits, his intention being to return and work it. He left there on the 1st of September, going up the river in a small bateau. It was necessary to pole the craft, making in this way only about twenty miles a day. There were heavy snows on the cascades when Mr. Hess and his companions crossed October 14. This, the Indians claimed.

had never occurred before so early in the year. The snow was two feet deep, making travel quite difficult, but Mr. Hess was able to pick up a pair of snow shoes, which assisted him greatly. He felt great joy at being once more on the south side of the mountains out of reach of the piratical methods of the Alaska Commercial Company. In his travels over the country he had found two minerals which, it has been claimed, were never found together in the same district before—coal and gold. He found coal in big chunks, weighing from fifteen to twenty pounds, deposited on gravel bars from which he washed one-half to three-fourths of a cent to the pan. There are no definite accounts of Mr. Hess in his further wanderings and search for gold from the time he arrived on the coast, but it seems that he soon afterward returned into the interior and that he was finally successful in finding rich diggings. He had traveled thousands of miles up and down that wild and rugged country, had endured exposure and privations which pen can never fully describe, had suffered injustice, but with indomitable courage he toiled on toward the prize which all men seek. In the strange irony of fate, when he was about to realize something for all these long and wearisome years of seeking he was called from this life, his comrades finding him one morning in his cabin, cold and still. He had reached the end of the trail and had at last crossed that great divide which separates man from immortality.

DAVID F. KAUFMAN.

David F. Kaufman, collector for the Singer Sewing Machine Company, was born in Sterling, September 20, 1852, his parents being Rudolph and Elizabeth (Stamm) Kaufman, both of whom were natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. In tracing back the ancestry it is found that the paternal grandfather was also a native of the Keystone state but was of Swiss German descent. He died in middle life and his wife, who in her maidenhood was Miss Summey, afterward came to Sterling, where she passed away at an advanced age. They had six sons and one daughter, all of whom are now deceased. This number included Rudolph Kaufman. The mother of our subject was a daughter of Peter Stamm, also a native of Pennsylvania and of Holland Dutch descent. She was one of a large family.

While living in his native state Rudolph Kaufman learned and followed the wheelwright's trade. In 1849 he came to Illinois and settled in Sterling, while he purchased farms in Montmorency and in Sterling townships, buying one hundred and twenty acres of land from the government. This was during the pioneer epoch in the history of the county, when all the countryside was largely wild and unimproved, giving little indication of the development which was soon to transform it into one of the rich agricultural districts of the state. The prairies were largely covered with the native grasses and considerable wild game could be had. The homes of the settlers were widely scattered and Mr. Kaufman would haul his grain to Chicago and bring back a supply of groceries and other goods from the stores of that city. After he

retired from agricultural life he made his home with his son, David F., until his death, which occurred in January, 1903, when he was in his eighty-ninth year, his birth having occurred in 1813. His wife died in January, 1871. Both were members of the Methodist church and were worthy, consistent Christian people. Mr. Kaufman, prompted by a spirit of patriotism, enlisted at the first call of Lincoln for seventy-five thousand men but was not accepted on account of his age. At different times he served as town collector, assessor and commissioner and in community affairs he was deeply and helpfully interested, taking an active part in all that pertained to the public good. He was found reliable and trustworthy in every relation of life and commanded the confidence and respect of his fellowmen.

David F. Kaufman was one of a family of six children and is the second of the three sons now living, his elder brother being Fred S. Kaufman, of Los Angeles, California; and his younger brother, Horace Greeley Kaufman, also of Sterling. David F. Kaufman was reared under the parental roof and attended the district and public schools. He early became familiar with farm labor but desiring to follow other pursuits, when a young man he spent one year as a clerk in the hardware department of R. B. Whitmer's store. He then turned his attention to the sewing machine business and was in the employ of the Singer Company and the Wheeler & Wilson Company for over thirty years, spending twelve years of that time in their Chicago offices. He also spent two years in Galesburg, Illinois, and three years in Davenport, Iowa, but has always regarded Sterling as his home and has been closely associated with its interests, its upbuilding and its substantial development.

On the 22d of December, 1875, Mr. Kaufman was married to Miss Martha E. Fraser, a daughter of George S. and Lucy (Olmsted) Fraser. Her parents were natives of the state of New York and resided in Wayne county near Wolcott. Her father was a marble-cutter and followed that business for a number of years, but became one of the pioneer settlers of Whiteside county, where he took up his abode about 1849, locating on a farm in Genesee township. Following the death of his first wife he removed to Canton, Illinois, where he married a second time, and there his death occurred when he was more than eighty-two years of age. His first wife passed away in February, 1898, at the age of sixty-seven years, and he is still survived by his second wife, who was formerly Mrs. Lois Fair, and who resides at Canton, Illinois. In the family of George and Lucy Fraser there were seven children, of whom four are now living: Martha, now Mrs. Kaufman; Nellie C., the wife of Alfred Thorpe, of Sterling; Gertrude, the wife of John F. Buckley, of Beloit, Wisconsin; and L. Verdell, the wife of Charles B. Young, of Aurora, Illinois. It will be interesting in this connection to note something more of the history of Mrs. Kaufman's people. Her paternal grandfather, Henry Fraser, was a native of the Empire state and was of Scotch descent. A blacksmith by trade, he had a shop on his farm in Genesee township following his removal to this county, and thus continued blacksmithing until he took up his abode in Sterling, where he died at the venerable age of eighty-three years. His wife, Mrs. Lucinda (Stewart) Fraser, was more than seventy years of age at the time of her

death. They were the parents of four sons and two daughters. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Kaufman was Elijah Olmsted, a native of New York and a farmer by occupation. He married Jerusha Grover and died in Wayne county, New York, after which his widow married again and came to the west. Her second husband was a Mr. Stage and they made their way to Whiteside county, where their children were living. Both died here when well advanced in years.

In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Kaufman were three sons and four daughters: Bessie, who died at the age of five years; Harry, who is a conductor on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad; Frank, who died at the age of fifteen months; Nancy, twin sister of Frank, and the wife of Frank S. Waters, of Aurora, Illinois; Jessie, who is a stenographer of Chicago and also well known as an elocutionist; and Lawrence and Lucile, twins, who are students in the high school of Sterling.

The parents are consistent members of the First Methodist Episcopal church. For ten years they have occupied what is known as the old Worthington property and their home is noted for its generous and warm-hearted hospitality. Politically Mr. Kaufman is a prohibitionist, thus voicing his opinion on the temperance question. He stands not only for temperance but for morality in every form, and his influence is ever given on the side of truth, justice and right. In his business life he has made a creditable record, as is indicated by the fact that he has continued so long in the employ of the Singer Sewing Machine Company. He is a representative of one of the oldest families of the county and for almost fifty-six years has counted Whiteside county as his home, although his business interests have called him at different times to other localities. He has been an interested witness of its growth and development and has seen the greater part of the changes which have been wrought in transforming this into one of the leading counties of this great commonwealth.

MICHAEL N. CROHAN.

Among the residents of the village of Fenton who have retired from active business life, but were formerly enterprising factors in agricultural circles in Whiteside county, is numbered Michael N. Crohan. His birth occurred in County Roscommon, Ireland, October 10, 1837, his parents being John and Nora (Hanley) Crohan, who were also natives of County Roscommon. The father died when his son Michael was but six years of age and the latter came with his mother and two sisters, Ann and Mary, to the United States, the family home being established in Freehold, Monmouth county, New Jersey, in 1850. Michael Crohan was then a youth of about thirteen years. He remained in New Jersey during the period of his minority and, fond of reading, he closely followed the writings of Horace Greeley and eventually heeded the advice of the great reformer in his injunction, "Go west, young man, go west." Making his way to this section of the country,



MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL N. CROHAN

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he first located at Connersville, Fayette county, Indiana, leaving his mother and sisters in the east. This was in 1854, during the administration of Franklin Pierce. As he had no capital and his financial condition rendered immediate employment a necessity, he hired out to work as a farm hand and when he had tested the opportunities of the west and believed that he could make a good living in this section of the country he sent for his mother, sister and other relatives to join him and all settled in Indiana.

In 1857 Mr. Crohan came to Whiteside county, Illinois, being induced to take this step by the fact that he had acquaintances living in Sterling. He remained for a short time in the city and then removed to Lyndon township, working as a farm hand for Draper Richmond until after the outbreak of the Civil war. On the 2d of September, 1861, he donned the blue uniform, enlisting at Morrison as a member of Company C, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, under Colonel John A. Farnsworth. The regiment was located at Washington for three months, being encamped at Alexandria, the former home of Robert E. Lee. The troops then proceeded to Maryland and Mr. Crohan with others of his command was detailed to guard government trains on the march to the Wilderness, being in the rear of McClellan's army. They engaged the enemy at Culp's Farm and Mr. Crohan was also a participant in the battle of South Mountain. Becoming ill, he was honorably discharged and returned home in 1863. He was in poor health for a year, but as soon as able became an active factor in business life and for one season worked for others in Illinois.

In 1865 Mr. Crohan returned to Indiana, was married and then again came to Whiteside county, settling in Fenton township, where he has since made his home, covering a period of forty-three years. Here he purchased eighty acres of land on sections 16 and 20 and later he bought more land, having at one time one hundred and seventy-seven acres. He resided on his farm on section 16, Fenton township, until he retired from active labor and took up his abode in the village of Fenton. Here he has lived for the past fourteen years and has gradually disposed of his property, so that he has few business interests to care for and yet has a substantial bank account which supplies him with all of the necessities and some of the comforts of life.

In 1865 Mr. Crohan was married to Miss Celia Coyne, who was born in Balcarra, County Mayo, Ireland, January 15, 1840. They traveled life's journey together for forty-three years and were then separated by the death of the wife on the 20th of January, 1908. She came to America in 1860 and was a resident of Rushville, Indiana, up to the time of her marriage on the 8th of February, 1865. She passed away at their home in Fenton and her death was deeply regretted by many friends, who esteemed her highly for her good qualities of heart and mind. They had no children of their own, but adopted a son, William E. Crohan, now of Chicago. A sister, Catherine Coyne, also made her home with them.

Mr. Crohan is a member of Captain Alpheus Clarke Post, No. 118, G. A. R., of Morrison. His political allegiance has always been given the democracy and he has served as road and drainage commissioner for six years. His religious faith is that of the Catholic church and he is a communicant of the

congregation at Morrison. A well-spent life has gained for him the lasting friendship and warm regard of many with whom he has come in contact, while his honorable business career has won for him a comfortable competence that now enables him to live retired.

JOSEPH BROWN.

Joseph Brown was one of the honored pioneer settlers of Whiteside county and, moreover, deserves representation in this volume from the fact that he gave his life as a sacrifice on the altar of his country during the period of the Civil war. He was widely known and respected and he is yet represented in this county by his two daughters, Jennie and Jessie Brown, who occupy the old homestead farm. He was born in Manchester, England, in 1823 and was the fifth child in a family of six children. The family history records the marriages of Elizabeth Brown and Jane Brown to members of the Dickens family, to which the famous author, Charles Dickens, belongs. William Brown, grandfather of our subject, was born in 1752 and died in 1825. He married Margaret Weir, of Warrington, County Down, Ireland, whose people removed to England prior to 1798. Unto them were born nine children, including William Brown, who was the second in order of birth and married Agnes Graham. They were the parents of Joseph Brown of this review.

Joseph Brown spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity, leaving England in the early '40s and crossing the Atlantic to Worcester, Massachusetts. He married Miss Eliza Corscaden, a daughter of Richard and Jane (Crawford) Corscaden, on the 24th of October, 1847. In 1850, before they left Massachusetts, Mr. Brown purchased a tract of land on section 1, Sterling township, Whiteside county, Illinois, which he afterward sold, and later purchased another tract in Jordan township. Again disposing of his property, he at length purchased a quarter section in Palmyra township, Lee county, which he retained for a place of residence.

It was in the year 1851 that Mr. and Mrs. Brown settled in Whiteside county, first making their home with Jacob Powell. With the other early pioneers of the locality Mr. Brown assisted in the development of the new country through the cultivation of its soil, his carefully directed agricultural interests proving an element in the general development of the community. As the years passed he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and gathered large crops each fall. His farming interests were carefully conducted and his work brought to him a good financial return. Three children were added to the family: Arthur, who died in infancy; and Jennie and Jessie, who now own and occupy the old homestead.

In religious faith Mr. Brown was an early day Unitarian, while Mrs. Brown's parents were Episcopalians. They were ever interested in all that pertained to progress and advancement and were in hearty sympathy with the anti-slavery movement, staunchly advocating the abolition cause. Mr. Brown

was among the first to take up arms to preserve the Union and suppress the slave traffic in the south. He enlisted on the 7th of January, 1862, as a member of Company F, First Regiment of Illinois Light Artillery, known as Cheney's Battery. He joined this command in Dixon, Lee county, and was appointed corporal on the field of Shiloh, April 21, 1862. While on duty at Pittsburg Landing he contracted typhoid fever and was removed to the hospital at Memphis, Tennessee. On the 7th of July he obtained sick leave, his furlough extending until the 12th of the same month. Upon the expiration of his leave of absence it was renewed, but he died before the expiration of the second furlough on the 24th of July, 1862. He was a true patriot and a brave soldier who gave his life as a sacrifice that liberty and freedom might not perish from American soil.

Following the death of her first husband, Mrs. Brown became the wife of Jacob Powell, one of the early settlers and honored pioneers of Whiteside county. He was born January 19, 1814, in Dutchess county, New York, was of Quaker parentage and of Welsh descent. He was the oldest in a family of eight children, his parents being Joseph and Hannah (Bowerman) Powell. He was largely self-educated, his opportunities for attending school being very meager, but by working at farm labor he earned a sum of money sufficient to enable him to attend the Lima Seminary of New York. Later he determined to become a member of the medical profession and provided for the expense of a course in a medical college in Philadelphia. Upon removing westward he took up his abode in the state of Michigan and in the fall of 1844 came to Whiteside county, Illinois. He spent the following winter in New York but in the spring returned to this state and on the 1st of April, 1845, purchased the northeast quarter of section 13, Sterling township, it being a part of what was known as the state script lands. Mr. Powell chose this location because of the fine view here afforded of the surrounding country and the beautiful Rock river. On this beautiful site he built his home, the material for construction being hauled with ox teams and horses from Chicago, Albany and Fulton. In those early days Chicago and Peru were the grain and stock markets and to those places the farmers took all that they had for sale. Mr. Powell gave his attention to agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, which he carried on extensively and profitably. In his business affairs he displayed keen judgment and marked executive force and during the years 1868 and 1869 he built the beautiful residence now occupied by his daughters. Mr. Powell's sympathies were with the republican party and he believed firmly in its principles but never sought nor desired office for himself. During the years preceding the Civil war he was connected with the anti-slavery movement, his home being the headquarters for all anti-slavery lectures and a station on the famous underground railroad, whereby he assisted many a negro on his way from bondage in the south to freedom and liberty in Canada.

It was on the 15th of April, 1863, that Mr. Powell was married to Mrs. Eliza Corseaden Brown, the widow of Joseph Brown and a daughter of Richard and Jane (Crawford) Corseaden. She was the third in a family of seven children and was born in Kilmacrenan in the north of Ireland but comes of

Scotch ancestry. At a very early day, however, her ancestors made their way to the north of Ireland to escape persecution in Scotland. Her father's uncles were famous as manufacturers of the noted Paisley shawls at Paisley, Scotland. In 1844 Mrs. Powell went to Canada with her parents and four years later they became residents of Clinton county, New York. On the 8th of May, 1851, she came to Whiteside county, journeying by stage from Chicago. She was a resident of Whiteside county for forty-seven years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Powell there were born no children, yet they educated and reared five, including Jennie and Jessie Brown, her daughters by the first marriage; two sisters, Margaret and Anna Holland; and Nelson Powell, a nephew of Mr. Powell. Margaret Holland is now a successful physician of Houston, Texas, where she has practiced since 1874. She is a graduate of the Woman's Hospital Medical College, of Chicago. Anna Holland has successfully engaged in teaching school for fifteen years in Whiteside county. Nelson Powell was married January 25, 1872, to Celia Corseaden, a niece of Mrs. Powell, and to them were born three children: LeRoy, Nellie Josephine and Clarence.

On the 20th of September, 1889, at the close of a long and useful career, Mr. Powell died. He had lived for three-quarters of a century, during which time he witnessed many of the wonderful changes and transformations in the new west. His character was beyond reproach. Mrs. Powell survived her husband nine years and died April 28, 1898. She is spoken of today as a woman of sweet and loving disposition, possessing a tender sympathy and charity for all, her willing hand being ever ready to assist the weak and unfortunate. The county thus lost two of its representative pioneers but their memory is still cherished by those who knew them. The family home and farm is now owned by the daughters, Jennie and Jessie Brown, and under their management has been successfully and profitably operated since the death of their mother.

MARTIN J. RYERSON.

No matter in how much fantastic theorizing one may indulge as to the causation of success, upon careful analysis it will always be found that it is based upon persistent, well directed effort—a statement which finds verification in the life record of Martin J. Ryerson, a well known merchant of Emerson, who is conducting a general store as junior partner of the firm of Reed & Ryerson. He was born in Hopkins township, Whiteside county, Illinois, October 25, 1855, and is a son of Martin and Margaret (Johnson) Ryerson. His paternal grandparents were David and Esther (Burr) Ryerson, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of New York. They were married and lived in New York, where the grandfather carried on general farming until his life's labors were ended in death.

Martin Ryerson, the father, was born in New Jersey, September 28, 1824, and was a farmer and carpenter. At an early age he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade, serving for four years, during which time he

was paid the meager sum of ten cents per day. For many years he was identified with carpentering, following that pursuit in the east until 1850. when he removed westward to Whiteside county, where he again resumed work at his trade. He afterward purchased eighty acres of land on section 14, Hopkins township, and upon the place made many fine improvements. As the years passed he became owner of two hundred and forty-five acres of rich and productive land, extending the boundaries of his original farm by additional purchases and bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation, while the many modern improvements added made his place one of the valuable farms of the county. He was married in Sterling to Miss Margaret Johnson, a daughter of Robert and Rebecca (Truax) Johnson, who were natives of Maryland and Pennsylvania respectively. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ryerson were born two daughters and two sons: Sarah, Esther, Martin J. and John, but the last named is now deceased. The father served as overseer of highways for many years and did much to improve the public roads. He was a stalwart republican in politics and did all in his power to insure the success of the party. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife was also a member, and in the work of the church they were deeply and helpfully interested.

Martin J. Ryerson, who was a representative of the family in the third generation to bear this name, attended the common schools near the old home farm. In October, 1903, he was married to Miss Anna Reed, a daughter of Franklin and Elizabeth Reed. Mr. Ryerson followed farming until 1907, when he entered into partnership with B. F. Reed in the mercantile business in Emerson. They have one of the best country stores in the county, carrying a large and well selected line of goods, the proprietors being wide-awake, enterprising and energetic business men, courteous and obliging in their treatment of their patrons and thus securing a large and growing trade. Their business methods are such as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny, for they have closely conformed to a high standard of commercial ethics. Their store is favorably located and is convenient to a large area of farming country from which they draw a good trade. Good qualities of heart and mind have gained for Mr. Ryerson warm and lasting friendships and he has a wide and favorable acquaintance in this part of the county.

BENJAMIN REED.

Sterling offers attractive residence to many who have retired from active life to spend the evening of their days in the enjoyment of rest which they have truly earned and richly deserve. To this class belongs Benjamin Reed, who has now passed the eighty-fifth milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of September, 1822. His parents were Michael and Catharine (Kaiser) Reed, natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer of Franklin county, that state, where he died in 1852, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife passed away just

a week before of cholera. They were both members of the Lutheran church. Their family numbered seven sons and four daughters, of whom Benjamin Reed is the only one now living.

Upon the old homestead farm in the county of his nativity Benjamin Reed spent the days of his boyhood and youth, and the work of tilling the soil and caring for the crops early became familiar to him. While still a young man he attended the subscription and district schools, and when his education was completed he learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed for a number of years. In 1854 he arrived in the middle west, settling in Hopkins township, Whiteside county, where he purchased land and improved a farm of one hundred and thirty-four acres. Upon that place he reared his family and continued to reside for a long period, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation and converting the tract into valuable and productive property. Upon leaving the farm he took up his abode at Empire, where he remained for two and a half years, and in 1884 became a resident of Sterling, where he has since resided.

On the 22d of February, 1844, when a young man of about twenty-two years, Mr. Reed was married to Miss Harriet Clark, a daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Grubb) Clark. She was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and her parents were also natives of that state. The Clarks were a prominent family there and her grandfather was the first judge of Franklin county. Her maternal grandfather was Christian Grubb, who was of Swiss descent, although the family was founded in America in colonial days. Christian Grubb served as a soldier throughout the entire period of the Revolutionary war and in days of peace followed the occupation of farming. His wife was Margaret (Kramer) Grubb, and their family numbered seven daughters and one son.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Reed were born ten children, five sons and five daughters, of whom eight are yet living: Eleanor, the wife of J. B. McDowell, of Sterling; Emily, the wife of J. F. Bednar, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Kate, the wife of J. C. Lockhart, of Eskridge, Kansas; John N., a resident of Jordan township; Reuben M., who is living in Las Vegas, New Mexico; Clara I., the wife of F. R. Taylor, of Sterling; Frank A., also of this city, and Edna G., who completes the family, and is living at home with her father. Those deceased are Frank and George.

The wife and mother died July 11, 1907, at the age of eighty-three years, seven months and five days. Her death was the occasion of deep regret to many friends, as well as her immediate family. Mr. and Mrs. Reed had lived together in happy married life for sixty-three years. They became residents of Whiteside county in 1854 and passed through all the hardships and privations that are endured by the pioneers in settling new country and opening it up to the influences of civilization. They were both charter members of St. John's Lutheran church of Sterling and enjoyed in the highest degree the respect and good will of those with whom they came in contact.

Mr. Reed sold his farm in 1904, and for a short time after coming to Sterling conducted a feed store on Second avenue, but is now living retired.

He served for some time as school director, and in politics has always been a democrat. He is now more than eighty-five years of age, but still retains vivid recollections of the early days when Whiteside county bore little resemblance to the improved district which is now included within its borders. His life is one of activity and perseverance, crowned with a measure of success that enables him to live retired. All who know him entertain for him the highest respect because of his genuine worth and the honorable principles which have governed his life.

GEORGE P. ROBERTSON.

The home of George P. Robertson occupies the very center of Whiteside county and stands in the midst of a well improved farm of attractive appearance on section 33, Mount Pleasant township. The place comprises one hundred and eighty acres of land which, naturally rich and productive, has been made to yield excellent crops year after year as a reward for the care and labor of the owner, who for eighteen years has lived upon this place.

Mr. Robertson was born in Mount Pleasant township on the 6th of October, 1865, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Robertson, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. His boyhood was passed near Morrison and he attended the common schools. When not occupied with his text-books his time was largely devoted to the work of the farm and he remained at home until twenty-one years of age. The occupation to which he was reared he has made his life work and the success which he has achieved is attributable entirely to his own labors. Year after year he worked persistently and diligently and at length his labors brought to him the capital that enabled him to make the purchase of his present property, which came into his possession about 1890.

It was in February, 1890, that Mr. Robertson was united in marriage to Miss Rachel Shear, who was born in Wisconsin but at six months of age came with her parents to Morrison, where her mother had been reared. She was a daughter of William H. and Jean (Murray) Shear, who were early residents of Whiteside county. The mother was born in Scotland and when two years of age came with her parents to this county, arriving here in 1842. The Shear family came from the state of New York prior to the Civil war and William H. Shear enlisted from this county in Company G, Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, being mustered into the United States service. May 24, 1861, and mustered out June 16, 1864. On the 9th of March, 1865, he re-enlisted, becoming first lieutenant of Company G, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was finally mustered out August 28, 1865. He was afterward night marshal at Morrison for twenty-seven years and previous to that time had served for two years as night man at the depot. His public work brought him a wide acquaintance and his sterling qualities gained him favorable regard. For

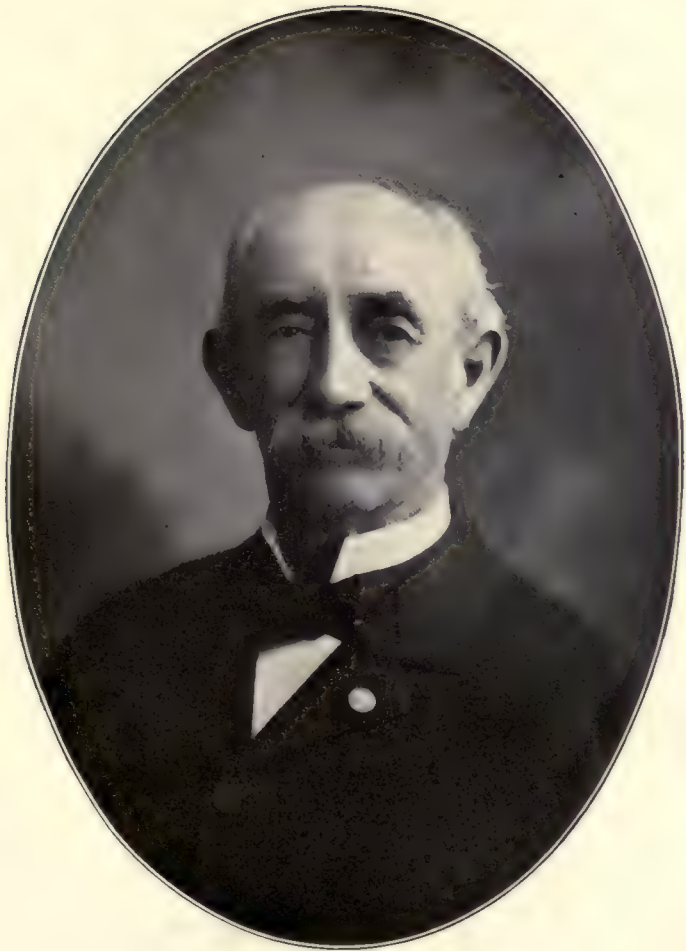
the past four years he has been living at the Illinois Soldiers' Home in Quincy and is now seventy years of age, his birth having occurred in New York in 1838, his childhood days being passed in Cherry Valley, that state. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His wife, Jean Murray, was born in Dairy, Ayrshire, Scotland, July 4, 1840, near the town of Ayr, which was the birthplace of Robert Burns. In 1842 her parents, Robert and Jean (Robertson) Murray, crossed the Atlantic with their family and settled in Whiteside county. The father died at Clear Lake, Wisconsin, but the mother passed away in this county. The daughter gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Shear in DeWitt, Iowa, August 11, 1864, and became the mother of twelve children. She died in Morrison May 18, 1900. Three children of the family died in infancy but nine are yet living, namely: Mrs. H. A. Bradley, a resident of Morrison; Mrs. Robertson, of this review; John M., living in Fulton; Mrs. T. J. Bailey, of Morrison; Mrs. Fred Hills, whose home is in Fulton, Illinois; Thomas, of Morrison; Frank, who resides in Dixon; Pansy, who is a professional nurse in Rock Island, Illinois; and Robert, also of Morrison.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Robertson has been blessed with five children, all of whom were born on the old home farm in the house which was built in 1853 and which is still standing. The children are: Jessie M., born in 1891; Fred M., born in April, 1892; Paul W., in 1893; and Myrtle and Mabel, twins, born in 1898.

The present residence of the family was erected by Mr. Robertson in 1905 and is one of the beautiful farm homes of the county. His place is neat and attractive in appearance throughout and the well kept farm indicates the enterprise and diligence of the owner, who may well be termed a self-made man. Politically he has always been a republican. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Morrison and attends the Presbyterian church. He has never desired to change his place of residence, for he realizes that Whiteside county offers excellent opportunities and in the improvement of these he has won the success which places him with the substantial agriculturists of the community.

CHARLES A. GRISWOLD, A. M., M. D.

Dr. Charles A. Griswold is the oldest physician in years of continuous practice in Whiteside county and his ability is widely recognized in Fulton in a large and liberal patronage. Few men so long in practice keep so closely in touch with the progress that is continually being made by the profession, but Dr. Griswold has ever been a student of the science of medicine and has been quick to adopt any new idea or method which he believed would prove of real benefit in his ministrations to the sick. Connecticut numbered him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Saybrook, that state, on the 24th of November, 1830. His parents were Selah and Rosanna (Bull) Griswold. His father was a descendant of the old



DR. C. A. GRISWOLD

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Griswold family, prominent in the early history of Connecticut, in whose honor Fort Griswold was named. The family personnel included one governor of the state and others prominent in public and business life. The grandfather of Dr. Griswold was one of the heroes of the American army in the Revolutionary war, while his father served in the war of 1812 and both were granted pensions in recognition of the valiant aid which they had rendered.

Dr. Griswold acquired his primary education in the schools of Cheshire, Connecticut, while his university course was pursued at Yale, within the classic walls of which institution he was graduated in 1852. He completed the regular literary course and also attended two courses of medical lectures at Yale. Subsequently he spent three years in study and practical experience in the State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, New York, thus having excellent opportunity to acquaint himself with the manifestations of nervous disorders. Completing a course in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at New York city, he was there graduated with the degree of M. D. in March, 1856.

Thinking that the west furnished better opportunity for the young physician, Dr. Griswold came to Fulton in September following his graduation and, unlike the experience of most young physicians, no dreary novitiate awaited him. Almost immediately he secured a good paying practice and continued his professional labors at Fulton until October, 1862, when he entered the service of the government in the Civil war as assistant surgeon of the Ninety-third Regiment of Illinois Infantry. He was in the Yazoo Pass expedition and in the siege of Vicksburg, entering the city soon after its surrender. There he remained until the following September. He participated in the battle of Missionary Ridge and followed Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea. He was detailed for special duty on many occasions and in December, 1864, was promoted to regimental surgeon of the Ninety-third Illinois. He served with the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged and mustered out June 23, 1865, having remained at the front for three years without meeting a casualty or failing for a single day to be on hand for active duty. While he endured many hardships incident to army life, his experience gained in the field, especially in the line of surgery, has amply repaid him. His experiences were those of most military surgeons, and there remain upon his memory many vivid recollections of the scenes through which he passed—sometimes terrible, sometimes heart-rending and again humorous. Never did he falter in the performance of any duty and many of his comrades have reason to bless his memory for the timely professional assistance which he rendered. His was indeed a creditable military record and one of which he has every reason to be proud.

Following his return from the war Dr. Griswold resumed the practice of his profession in Fulton and steadily advanced to a prominent and honorable position in his profession. He was a leading figure in the Union Medical Society of Whiteside county, Illinois, and Clinton county, Iowa, and also of the Whiteside County Medical Society. He was appointed a delegate to the American Medical Association which convened at Minneapolis, Minne-

sota, in June, 1882, and and he was connected with the Northern Illinois College for three years, during which time he lectured on physiology, anatomy and hygiene. Following his return from the war he was appointed examiner of pensions and held that position until May, 1901. He has also filled various other local civic offices and in 1868 was elected to the mayoralty of Fulton, while for two terms he served as supervisor of Fulton township and for three terms as school director. Still higher honors awaited him, however, for in 1889 he was chosen to represent his district in the state senate. His public service has been characterized by the utmost fidelity to duty, by a lofty patriotism and by high ideals of citizenship.

Dr. Griswold was married at Cleveland, Ohio, July 5, 1866, to Miss Alice E. Smith and unto them were born four children: Marietta Alice, born June 23, 1868, the wife of E. D. Redfield, a prominent business man of Hartford, Connecticut; Joie Adelaide, who was born March 8, 1870, and died on the 30th of September of the same year; Henrietta Beaumont, the wife of Henry H. Morgan, of New London, Connecticut; and Charles Richard, who was born December 1, 1874, and died July 19, 1875. The wife and mother passed away December 10, 1874.

Dr. Griswold is a man of marked literary taste and of considerable talent in that direction. He has been a frequent contributor to the local press and at different times has written upon varied subjects for other publications. At one time he was associate editor of the Fulton Advertiser, which at that time was a republican paper, but has since become the Journal and is democratic in its political complexion. His writings are characterized by a terse and expressive style. His articles are always of interest on whatever subject he treats and show wide research and investigation along the lines which he discusses. In politics he is a stalwart republican who has ever been deeply interested in the dominant issues and questions of the day and has done good service for his party. He has been a delegate to various local conventions and his influence and labors have ever been given for its support. Fraternally he is connected with Fulton Lodge, No. 189, A. F. & A. M., of which he has served as master for a number of years. He is a most worthy exemplar of the craft and in his practice has found ample opportunity to demonstrate its basic principles of mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. There is one incident in his life which he will never forget—the fact that he was in the Ashtabula bridge horror on the 29th of December, 1876. He was returning from Connecticut, where he had been to attend the funeral of his father, who died in his ninety-seventh year, and was a passenger on the ill-fated train which made the fearful plunge through the Ashtabula bridge to the river below, a distance of one hundred and forty feet. He was taken from the wreck in an insensible condition, although he had no bones broken. The horrors of the situation, however, made an indelible impress upon his mind and constituted an experience such as he hopes to never have again.

Such in brief is the life record of Dr. Charles A. Griswold, who for many years has figured as one of the most honored and leading citizens of Whiteside county, not only because of the success which he has attained in

his profession but also because of his devotion to the public welfare and the effective service he has done in behalf of general progress and improvement. He has exerted an immeasurable influence on the city of his residence; in business life as a physician and surgeon; in social circles by reason of a charming personality and unfeigned cordiality; in politics by reason of his public spirit and devotion to the general good as well as his comprehensive understanding of the questions affecting state and national welfare; and in those departments of activity which ameliorate hard conditions of life for the unfortunate by his benevolence and his liberality.

JOHN H. KREIDER.

John H. Kreider, whose name in Whiteside county has long stood as a synonym of progressive and successful agriculture, now resides at No. 501 Fourth avenue in Sterling and is enjoying a well earned rest. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, December 20, 1850, his parents being John H. and Sarah (Heidelbach) Kreider. The family is an old one of Lancaster county, it having been the home of the great-grandparents of our subject, and there the grandfather, John H. Kreider, was born, reared and spent his entire life, following the occupation of farming. He married a Miss Hochstetter and they became the parents of three sons and three daughters. After the death of his first wife he married a Miss Martin and survived her, reaching an advanced age.

His son, John H. Kreider, the father of our subject, was also a native of Lancaster county. He learned the carpenter's trade in early manhood, following that pursuit in the summer seasons, while in the winter months he worked at the butcher's trade. Attracted by the broader opportunities of the middle west, in the spring of 1854 he arrived in Whiteside county and settled on a farm two and a half miles east of Sterling, where he became the owner of one hundred and fifty-one acres of land, upon which he resided until his death. He was an industrious, energetic and successful agriculturist and succeeded in bringing his farm under a high state of cultivation. His life was one of signal usefulness and gained for him the warm regard of his fellow townsmen. He died on the 8th of November, 1892, when more than seventy-eight years of age. Mrs. Sarah Kreider still survives her husband and is a remarkably well preserved woman of eighty-nine years. She, too, was born in Pennsylvania, her parents being farming people of that state. Her father died when comparatively young but the mother lived to be more than seventy years of age and was twice married, her second husband being a Mr. Gall. Mrs. Kreider holds membership with the Mennonite church, to which her husband also belonged. Their family numbered four sons and two daughters, of whom two are now living, Sarah, the widow of Christian Rutt, her home being on Sixth avenue in Sterling; and John H., of this review.

The latter was in his fourth year when brought by his parents to Whiteside county and upon his father's farm he was reared to manhood, aiding

more and more largely in the work of the fields as his age and strength increased. The district schools afforded him his educational privileges and after he had attained his majority he took charge of the home farm, which he operated for his father for some time and which he now owns. His property interests also include a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Jordan township and he likewise has three hundred and twenty acres of land in Aurora county, South Dakota, in addition to his beautiful home and other residence property in Sterling. For the past nine years he has lived in the city and from this point supervises his farming interests. His labors were always carefully executed and his close application and unfaltering industry were strong elements in the success that now makes him one of the substantial residents of the county.

On the 24th of December, 1872, Mr. Kreider was married to Miss Magdalena Ebersole, a daughter of Abram and Anna (Rutt) Ebersole, who were natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. In the year 1866 the father came west with his family, settling upon a farm in Sterling township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where both he and his wife died. They were parents of nine children, of whom eight are yet living: Elias; Hettie, the wife of Abram Burkhart; Annie, the wife of John Resner; Sabina, the wife of Amos Landis; Michael; Abram; Solomon; and Amos. The other member of the family was Magdalena, who became the first wife of John H. Kreider. They had six children. Matilda, the eldest, is the wife of Abram Frye, living near Newkirk, Oklahoma, and they have five children, Maggie, Grace, Ruth, Walter and Florence. Harry, the second of the family, is at home. Abram is operating the home farm in Sterling township. He married Cora Landis and they have two children, Mabel and Margaret. Frank, who wedded Maude Fuller, is living at Kildare, Oklahoma. John, who wedded Jennie Kaiser, resides upon the farm in Jordan township, and they have one child, John Clayton. Amos completes the family. Mrs. Magdalena Kreider died January 28, 1892, at the age of forty years.

On the 7th of December, 1894, Mr. Kreider married Miss Anna Stauffer, a daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Smith) Stauffer. There is one child of this marriage, Benjamin Franklin Kreider. Mrs. Kreider is a granddaughter of Martin and Fannie (Whitmer) Stauffer, natives of Pennsylvania, who lived to an advanced age and reared a family of two sons and two daughters. The maternal grandfather was Nathaniel Smith, a native of Pennsylvania, who married Margaret Hasselbach. She died in her fortieth year and Mr. Smith when more than sixty years of age. They had eight children, of whom two are now living: Anna, the widow of Henry Cramer and a resident of Sterling; and Elizabeth, the wife of Abram Kauffman, of Millersville, Pennsylvania. The parents of Mrs. Anna Kreider were natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and had a family of six children, of whom three, Hiram, Mrs. Kreider and Harry Stauffer, are still living. The father died in 1882 at the age of sixty-nine years, and the mother passed away February 16, 1890, at the age of seventy years.

Mr. and Mrs. Kreider are members of the Mennonite church in which he is serving as a trustee. His political allegiance is given to the republican

party but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has always preferred to give his undivided attention to his business affairs and as a farmer he made consecutive progress and won a goodly measure of success. Both he and his wife are well known in Sterling, where their circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances. For more than a half century he has lived in this county and his memory therefore forms a connecting link between the past with its hardships and privations and the present with its progress and prosperity. He has watched pioneer conditions giving way before those of an advanced civilization and is therefore largely familiar with the history of this part of the state. That his life has been one of activity, energy and business honesty is indicated by the fact that he is today the owner of valuable property and, moreover, has the confidence and trust of his fellowmen.

DAVID D. EBERSOLE.

David D. Ebersole, who is now living retired in Sterling, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, April 9, 1832, and has therefore passed the seventy-sixth milestone on life's journey. His parents were David and Esther (Burkholder) Ebersole, natives of the Keystone state. The father was a son of Jacob Ebersole, who was born in Lancaster county and followed the occupation of farming. He married a Miss Mellinger and unto them were born two sons and three daughters. The maternal grandfather was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and also devoted his life to general agricultural pursuits. He married a Miss Lehmann and both reached an advanced age. Their family numbered several sons but only one daughter. The ancestry of the Ebersole family can be traced back to Jacob Ebersole, who came from Switzerland to the new world, and David D. Ebersole of this review is a representative of his descendants in the fifth generation.

David Ebersole, the father, made farming his life work and died in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, February 14, 1861, at the age of seventy-four years, eleven months and seventeen days. He was twice married, his first union being with Gertrude Nissley, by whom he had two sons and one daughter. Following her death he married Miss Esther Burkholder, who survived him and died July 17, 1879, at the age of eighty years, ten months and twenty days. Both were consistent members of the Mennonite church. Their family numbered seven children, but only two are now living: David D., of this review; and Barbara, the wife of Jacob Witmer, of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for David D. Ebersole in his boyhood days. He attended the district schools and through the summer months worked in the fields. After he attained his majority he started out in business on his own account and for two years was in the employ of his oldest brother, Abraham. He then married and began farming on his own account. The year 1869 witnessed his arrival

in Illinois, at which time he took up his abode in Whiteside county, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land in Sterling township, which he afterward sold. He then bought a farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres in the same township and there lived for a number of years. He afterward disposed of that property and at a later day he rented eighty acres of land, which he cultivated for several years when, in 1902, he removed to Sterling, where he has since resided, owning here a good home.

On the 2d of November, 1854, Mr. Ebersole was married to Miss Anna Martin, a daughter of David and Fanny (Rutt) Martin, who were natives of Pennsylvania, born in Lancaster county. They had five daughters and four sons. The father died November 5, 1835, at the age of fifty-one years, while the mother passed away March 15, 1834, at the age of forty-three years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ebersole have been born two sons and six daughters: Adaline, who is now living in Sterling; Fanny, the wife of Aaron Book, a resident of Prairieville, Illinois, by whom she has seven children, Mabel, Elmer, Guy, Grace, Ruth, Lawrence and Clarence; Melinda, who is a worker in the Mennonite Home Mission in Chicago; Ephriam, now deceased, who married Hattie Mack and had two children—Charles and Florence; Anna, living with her sister, Mrs. Book; David, a resident farmer of Newkirk, Oklahoma, who married Hettie Frey and they have six children, Roy, Lloyd, Bertha, Frank, Anna and Milton; Martha, who became the wife of Amos Wise and died leaving four children, Claude, Howard, Lelia and Lauren; and Amanda, who completes the family.

The parents are members of the Mennonite church and in politics Mr. Ebersole is a republican. He has served as school director of Sterling township and also as highway commissioner. He has led an active life and now well merits the rest which has come to him in the evening of his days. He has been a resident of this county for thirty-nine years and has therefore witnessed much of its development and progress.

CHARLES JOHN MELLBERG.

Charles John Mellberg, who, having passed the seventy-seventh milestone on life's journey, is now living retired in Rock Falls, being pleasantly located at No. 311 Fourth avenue, was in his earlier years closely identified with agricultural pursuits, and lived a life of unremitting activity and energy. He was born at Landskrona, Sweden, April 3, 1831, his parents being Sven and Maria (Croke) Mellberg, who were likewise natives of Sweden, where the father carried on farming and also conducted a hotel. He died in that country in 1855 at the age of fifty-five years, while his wife survived until 1872, passing away at the age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of two sons and three daughters: Maria, who died in early womanhood; Olof, of Landskrona; Christina, who was the wife of Peter Larsen; Elizabeth, who married a Mr. Tullberg; and Charles J., who is living at Rock Falls.

The last named was reared in Sweden and acquired a common-school education in his native town. Starting out in business life, he worked for a gentleman farmer for two and a half years, and afterward served an apprenticeship at the tanner's trade in Denmark, following that pursuit for many years. In 1857 he came to America and worked for a time on a farm in Champaign county, Illinois, in the employ of James Curtis. He next went to Paducah, Kentucky, and later to Two Rivers, Wisconsin. On again coming to Illinois he settled in Mendota, and in August, 1861, he offered his services to his adopted country as a soldier of the Union army, enlisting in Battery G of the Second Illinois Regiment. He was mustered out in August, 1865, at Montgomery, Alabama, after four years spent at the front in valorous defense of the old flag and the cause it represented. He participated in many important engagements, including the battle of Tupelo, Mississippi, where the firing continued for three days and caused the loss of his hearing. He was also in the battle of Vicksburg, and afterward went to Columbus, Kentucky, to Trenton and on to St. Louis, after which the Union troops drove General Price out of Missouri. Mr. Mellberg was also in the battle of Nashville and of Mobile, and was in many skirmishes. He joined the army as a private, and afterward became a corporal. No native born son of America was more loyal to the interests of the Union or more courageous in defense of the cause which he espoused. He met unflinchingly all of the hardships meted out to the soldier and became familiar with all the varied experiences of military life.

When the war was over Mr. Mellberg began work at his trade in Mendota and was married there. Subsequently he was for a time at Nashville, Tennessee, and later located in Chicago in the spring of 1871, being there at the time of the great fire, which broke out on the 9th of October of that year. In 1875 he removed to Rock Falls, where he has since lived, working at his trade most of the time. He also followed farming for ten years in Genesee township, where he owns a farm of eighty acres of finely improved land. During the past seven years, however, he has lived retired in Rock Falls, his well directed labors in former years gaining for him the competence that now makes it possible for him to enjoy rest without further recourse to labor.

On the 31st of August, 1866, Mr. Mellberg was married to Miss Maria Price, who was born in Wales and is a daughter of James K. and Mary (Ashton) Price, both of whom were natives of the little rock-ribbed country where the birth of Mrs. Mellberg occurred. They lived, however, for many years in England. In 1857 the father came to America and four years later was joined by the mother. They settled in Mendota, Illinois, where Mr. Price followed the shoemaker's trade. His death there occurred in 1892, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-three years and three months, and his wife passed away in 1894 at the age of eighty-two years. They were the parents of ten children, five of whom are now living: James K. Price, Jr., of Chicago; Annie, the widow of George Elkins, of Chicago; Mrs. Mellberg; Sophia, the widow of William Merritt, of Mendota; and George T. Price, who also resides in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Mellberg have become the parents of a daughter and son. Anna Christina is now the wife of Robert McIlmoyl, a resident of Rock Falls, and they have two sons, Harry and Charley. Fred Mellberg is operating the home farm in Genesee township. He wedded Emma Barnes and they have two children, Fred and Ruth Emma.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Mellberg are members of the Methodist church, loyal to its teachings and generous in its support. Mr. Mellberg also belongs to Will Enderton Post, G. A. R., and gives his political allegiance to the republican party, which was the defense of the Union in the dark days of the Civil war and has always been the party of reform and progress. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to America, but on the contrary has always regarded it as a most fortunate step in his life history. Here he found the opportunities he sought and by the improvement of the chances which came to him he has gradually progressed in the business world until he has gained a place with the men of affluence in the community where he now resides.

JOHN H. SHARER.

John H. Sharer, a retired farmer and stockman living in Garden Plain township, was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, April 5, 1854, a son of Samuel and Magdalena (Hoy) Sharer. The former was a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, born February 14, 1829, and came to Whiteside county, Illinois, with his father, Jacob Sharer, in 1866, purchasing the land upon which his son Albert now resides. Subsequently he rented the farm to his son Samuel, but made his home thereon until the time of his death, which occurred April 25, 1892, when he had reached the age of sixty-three years, two months and eleven days.

John H. Sharer was about twelve years of age when he accompanied his father's family on the removal to this county and supplemented the education which he had received in the schools of his native county by attending for a short time the country schools of this locality. As he was the oldest son in a large family of children, it was necessary that he assist in the work of the home farm when still very young, being able to do almost a man's work when but fourteen years of age. He had handled teams since his seventh year, and often, while working on the farm, when his harrow struck a stump his father would have to come to his assistance, either removing the obstruction or lifting the harrow over the stump. Thus he early became familiar with the various duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and was well qualified to carry on his farming interests successfully when he started out in life on his own account.

On attaining his majority he worked by the month as a farm hand until his twenty-fourth year and was then engaged in the cultivation of rented land for fourteen years, on the expiration of which period, in the year 1892, he purchased a tract of one hundred and fifty-three acres, the



MR. AND MRS. JOHN H. SHARER

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greater part of which was improved. The buildings on the farm, however, were rather old and somewhat dilapidated and in 1901 he erected one of the handsomest residences in the county, subsequently also building some of the finest barns to be found in this county. He has since erected another dwelling on the farm, in which he resides, for his sons, who now largely relieve him of the active work of the fields, occupy the old homestead. The success which has come to him is but the merited reward of his well-directed labor and unremitting industry, for he started out in life empty-handed and has worked his way steadily upward to a place among the prosperous and representative citizens of Whiteside county.

On the 18th of September, 1878, Mr. Sharer was united in marriage to Miss Mary Starbuck, of West Virginia, a daughter of Benjamin and Anna Starbuck, both of whom were twice married. The children of the father's first marriage were: Amanda, who married a Mr. Anderson and lived in Indiana; Oliver, deceased; and John, who has also passed away. Mrs. Starbuck had one child by her first marriage, Martin H. Hubbard, who is now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Starbuck were born six children, who lived to maturity: Martha, deceased; Adeline, the deceased wife of Addison Shaver, of West Virginia; Benjamin B., who has also passed away; George, of West Virginia; David, likewise of that state; and Mrs. Sharer. The last named was but seven months old when her mother died and she was reared by Mr. and Mrs. William Huffman, who settled in Newton township, Whiteside county, in 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Sharer are the parents of seven children, namely: Edgar, who on the 8th of January, 1900, wedded Mary A. Curry; Charles W., who married Lorena Hawk; Lester, who married Miss Ida S. Blubaker; George H.; Benjamin S.; Ada May; and Willard L.

In his political views Mr. Sharer is a republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Albany, with which his wife is also identified. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his county. Having resided within its borders for forty-two years, he is widely and favorably known, the circle of his friends being almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

GEORGE W. THOME.

George W. Thome lives on section 12, Montmorency township, where he took up his abode about three years ago. He purchased this property, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is pleasantly situated near Rock Falls. Its excellent appearance, too, is the visible proof of his life of industry and unwearied labor, for the place was largely undeveloped when it came into his possession.

Mr. Thome is a native of Nelson, Illinois, born January 22, 1876. His parents were Anthony and Marian (Van Buskirk) Thome, the former a

native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Oneida county, New York. They came to Whiteside county about 1860, and the mother died in August, 1903, when seventy years of age. The father, who during his active life was a railroad man and farmer, is now residing in La Salle county. Their family numbered five children: Kate, the wife of J. P. Johnson, of Nebraska; John, who is living in Dixon; A. A., who makes his home in Rock Falls; Henry, who is located at Harmon, Illinois; and George W., of this review.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for George W. Thome in the period of his minority. He attended school, mastering the branches of learning therein taught, enjoying the sports in which most boys indulge and received his business training upon the homestead farm under the direction of his father. About 1905 he purchased his present property, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 12, Montmorency township. At the time the purchase was made the place had a fence around it, but otherwise was entirely unimproved. Now in its midst stands a fine commodious residence with large and substantial out-buildings, furnishing ample shelter for grain and stock. All were erected by Mr. Thome and therefore stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. He has placed the fields under the plow and annually gathers good harvests as the reward of his diligence and practical methods.

On the 1st of January, 1902, Mr. Thome was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Hollenbeck, who was born in Nelson, Illinois, May 26, 1876, a daughter of E. J. and Sarah C. (Dietrich) Hollenbeck, natives of Pennsylvania. They now reside in Nelson and came to Whiteside county in 1866. The father is seventy-three years of age at this writing, in 1908, while the mother has attained the age of sixty-eight years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thome have been born twin daughters, Edna and Elsie, on the 8th of April, 1904. Mr. Thome has lived a quiet, uneventful life, and yet his activity in business and his loyalty to the ties of citizenship have made him a respected and worthy resident of his community, well deserving of mention in this volume.

WILLIAM ELSWORTH WEAVER.

William Elsworth Weaver, professor of sciences in the township high school at Morrison, his native city, was born on the 5th of January, 1866. His father, Henry Weaver, was a native of Pennsylvania, and is now living in Morrison at the age of seventy-three years. He comes of English ancestry, the first representatives of the name in America arriving here with the colony of William Penn. The grandfather was Jacob Weaver, a farmer by occupation, and the great-grandfather was Henry Weaver, who served as a soldier in the Continental army in the Revolutionary war. Daniel Flenner, the father of Mrs. Jacob Weaver, was also a Revolutionary soldier and had his great toe shot off in battle.

Henry Weaver, father of our subject, also followed agricultural pursuits, and in 1855 came to Illinois, settling on a farm west of Morrison in Union

Grove township. There he spent his active life, carrying on general agricultural pursuits until his retirement in 1896, when he removed to Morrison, where he has since made his home. In his farming operations he prospered and now derives a good income from two hundred acres of improved farm land in Union Grove township. While upon the farm he engaged quite extensively in raising hogs for the market, and found this a profitable source of income. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. In early manhood Henry Weaver was married to Mary J. Nightser, a native of Pennsylvania and of German lineage now living at the age of seventy-three years. Her parents were Jephtha and Rebecca Nightser, who removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio in 1836, and there remained until 1855, when they came to Illinois, settling in Union Grove township, Whiteside county, where they spent their remaining days. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Weaver was celebrated in 1864, and unto them were born three sons: William Elsworth; John C., who was born January 29, 1868, and is now living on a farm in Union Grove township; and Clarence E., who was born May 1, 1870, and resides upon the old homestead.

At the usual age William E. Weaver began his education by attending the district schools, and later he became a student in the high school of Morrison, from which he was graduated with the class of 1883. He afterward gave his assistance to his father in the further development of the home farm for a year, when he entered the field of educational activity, and for one year taught school in Ustick township. Not content with the educational advantages he had himself received, in 1887 he entered Knox College at Galesburg, and was graduated in 1891 on the completion of the classical course with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. A year later he became a teacher in the Como school, and afterward went to Columbus, Nebraska, as principal of the Third ward school, continuing there for six years. He next became teacher of science in the high school there, and so continued for three years, also acting as high school principal during the last year. In 1902 he returned to Morrison and accepted the superintendency of schools in his native city, filling the position until 1906, when the township high school was organized and he became professor of sciences, in which capacity he has since served. He is an able educator, recognized as one of the leading members of the profession in this part of the state, and his work has been eminently satisfactory. He is constantly studying out new methods to increase the efficiency of his department, and has the ability to inspire his pupils with much of his own zeal and interest in the work.

On the 8th of July, 1903, Mr. Weaver was married to Miss Minnie Fredericka Becker, who was born in Columbus, Nebraska, October 7, 1877, a daughter of John Peter and Philipina Becker. The father was born in Warsaw, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, May 29, 1833, and died January 14, 1892. The mother was born in Massillon, Ohio, March 12, 1851, and is now living in Columbus. Mr. Becker was a contractor, grain buyer and banker, and was quite successful in his business operations. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Weaver are three children: Jane P., who was born in Columbus, Nebraska, July 15, 1904; John Peter and William Henry, born

October 13, 1906. Mrs. Weaver is a member of the Presbyterian church. They have a beautiful home in Morrison and its hospitality is greatly enjoyed by their many friends. It constitutes the center of a cultured society circle. In his political views Mr. Weaver is a republican, but has never been active in the party ranks. He is well known in Morrison, his native city, and his fellow townsmen feel a pride in what he has accomplished, having gained a position of more than local distinction as an educator.

HARVEY FRENCH.

Harvey French is a self-made man whose unwearied industry and close application has gained for him a measure of prosperity that now enables him to live retired. He has passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey and is spending the evening of life in a pleasant home in Sterling. For almost fifty-three years he has made his home upon the lot on which his present residence now stands, and through a long period he was closely associated with the building interests of this district, thus contributing in substantial measure to its improvement.

His life record began in Orange, New Hampshire, on the 6th of October, 1831. He is a representative of one of the old families of that state and of English descent. His paternal grandfather, Oliver French, was there born, as was the father, John French, whose birth occurred in Sutton, New Hampshire. He became a farmer of Orange and there died when about sixty-six years of age. In religious faith he was a Universalist. In community affairs he took an active and helpful interest and left the impress of his individuality upon the public life. He held all of the various town offices and was chosen to represent his district in the state legislature of New Hampshire. He was also called out for three months' service in the war of 1812, and thus had some military experience. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Polly Brown, was born in Wilmott, New Hampshire, and died in 1841. She was a daughter of Joseph Brown, a farmer of that locality. By her marriage she became the mother of six sons and a daughter, but only two of the family are now living, the elder being John H. French, who still resides at Orange, New Hampshire. After losing his first wife the father married again, his second union being with Maria J. Flanders. They had two daughters: Sarah M., the wife of Elisha Bullock, of Tilton, New Hampshire; and Clara Adell, the wife of William Hughes, of Orange, New Hampshire.

Harvey French was reared in the place of his nativity and mastered the branches of learning taught in the public schools there. When starting out upon an independent business career he went to Worcester, Massachusetts, where he learned the carpenter's and builder's trade. In 1855 he came west to Illinois, and for a brief period resided at Rockford. In the fall of 1856 he came to Sterling and purchased the lot upon which he yet resides, replacing his first dwelling by a new, modern residence in 1889. He was iden-

tified with the building interests of Sterling many years, and a goodly proportion of the substantial residences and business houses of the city were erected by him. The success which he achieved is undoubtedly attributable in large degree to the fact that he continued in the line of business activity in which he embarked as a young tradesman, and his experience constantly promoted his efficiency and thus secured him a gratifying patronage.

On the 24th of March, 1858, occurred the marriage of Mr. French and Miss Mary A. Kennedy, and together they are now enjoying the fruits of their industry and their well spent lives, having put by a competency for old age. In politics Mr. French has been a republican from the organization of the party, and is loyal to its best interests. A number of years ago he served on the board of health, has also been street commissioner and has filled the office of alderman. As he has prospered in his undertakings he has made judicious investment in property, and now owns a number of houses, from which he obtains a good rental. His labors have been of a character that have contributed to the improvement of Sterling as well as his individual success, and many of the fine buildings of the city stand as monuments to his memory, but none that equal the record of his sturdy character. He is numbered among the substantial residents of the city, where for more than a half century he has made his home, while his strongly marked traits of character are such as place him in the ranks of the foremost residents of Whiteside county.

ELWIN B. FACEY.

Elwin B. Facey has for about fifteen years lived retired, previous to which time his life was one of activity and industry, characterized by fidelity to the duties that devolved upon him in the various business connections. He is one of the native sons of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Utica, New York, December 10, 1849. He is of English descent, his paternal grandfather, Richard Facey, being a native of Devonshire, England, and a seafaring man, who died in his native country at an old age.

The father, Thomas K. Facey, was also born in Devonshire and became an engineer and machinist. At the time of his death he was one of the oldest engineers of the country, having served in that capacity on the Hudson & Berkshire Railroad and also on the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad in the early days of railroad transportation. During his residence in the east he belonged to the Utica Citizens Corps of the State Militia. Removing to the middle west, he located at Marshall, Michigan, and was an engineer on the Michigan Central Railroad for several years, after which he made his way to Erie, Illinois, in 1853, driving across the country from Freeport. After a brief period there passed, however, he went to Marshall, Michigan, and in 1855 arrived in Sterling, where he opened a blacksmith and machinist shop. He was an engineer, boilermaker, machinist and blacksmith, and a skilled workman in all those branches, cus-

tomers coming to him for forty miles around. He carried on business here for a number of years in the early days, having a shop at No. 22 West Third street, which has since been torn down and replaced by a two-story brick block. He was prominent in Masonry, having taken the chapter degrees, and was one of the oldest representatives of the craft in the county, exemplifying in his life its beneficent spirit. He died in February, 1897, when nearly seventy-five of age, and his wife, surviving him for more than a decade, passed away November 9, 1907, at the age of seventy-seven years. Both were consistent members of the Methodist church. Mrs. Facey bore the maiden name of Asenath Van Buskirk, and was born in the state of New York. Her parents resided in Oneida county and both died in middle life. Mrs. Facey became the mother of three children: Elwin B., of this review; Josephine E., the deceased wife of Morgan Evans; and Walter A., who has also passed away.

This leaves Elwin B. Facey as the only surviving member of the family. The first six years of his life were spent in the state of his nativity, after which his parents removed to Sterling, where he has since made his home. His education was acquired in the public schools here and when sixteen years of age he began learning the machinist's trade, which he followed for several years in Clinton, Iowa, in the shops of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. Later he engaged in railroading for ten years as a brakeman, fireman and engineer. He afterward conducted a plumbing business in Sterling for a number of years and followed various other pursuits. In his different undertakings he met with success and thereby accumulated a comfortable competence that has enabled him during the past fifteen years to live retired in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He has in his possession an old time table of the Michigan Central Railroad, dated 1854, given him by his father.

On the 29th of July, 1879, was celebrated the marriage of Elwin B. Facey and Miss Kate Miller, a daughter of John and Susan (Pierce) Miller, who were natives of Germany, and on coming to America settled in Chicago about 1855. Ten years afterward they came to Sterling, where the father worked at the cooper's trade and spent his remaining days, departing this life in 1902, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. He had for some time survived his wife, who passed away when twenty-six years of age. Mrs. Facey was the eldest of their four children, the others being: Joseph Miller, of Wichita, Kansas; Margaret, the wife of Nicholas Gaulrapp, of Sterling; and Anna, the wife of Jacob Gaulrapp.

Mr. and Mrs. Facey have four children: Fred, who married Edith Brayton and is a machinist of Madison, Wisconsin; Mabel, a trained nurse in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Frankie, cashier in Heckman's dry-goods store in Sterling; and Clara, the wife of Forest Ramsdell of Sterling. The family home is at No. 424 avenue D, Mr. Facey owning this property.

He is a member of the Methodist church and in politics was formerly a democrat but now gives his political allegiance to the republican party. During a long residence in this city he has become widely known and is a man of many friends. His life history proves what may be accomplished

by determined and honorable purpose. He has based his business principles and actions upon the rules which govern strict and unswerving integrity and industry and thus he has gained his present creditable position in the ranks of the leading citizens of Whiteside county.

WILLIAM FLETCHER.

William Fletcher, who is now living retired although still residing upon a farm in Union Grove township, having made his home in this township for fifty-five years, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, November 10, 1835, a son of William and Sarah (Wells) Fletcher. The mother died in England in 1841 and eleven years later, in 1852, the father made the trip across the Atlantic to the new world and was identified with farming interests in this county for a long period. He continued to reside upon the old home farm until his death, which occurred in 1893, when he was more than ninety-two years of age. He was one of the most venerable citizens of the county and had long enjoyed the full respect and good will of all with whom he was associated. His remains were interred in Morrison cemetery. A son of the family, Fred Fletcher, died in early childhood and there were seven daughters, namely: Susan, who became the wife of John Norman and both died in England; Mary, who died in infancy; Mary (2d), who came to America and died in Whiteside county in 1885, at the age of fifty-seven years; Ann, the widow of John Frost, who died February 21, 1900, at the age of seventy-two years; Esther, who became the wife of Elijah Stinton, now a resident of Morrison, while her death occurred three years ago; Sarah, the deceased wife of Benjamin Wythers, now living in England; Rebecca, the widow of Human Wythers, who died December 2, 1907, in Geneva, Nebraska, where she still resides; William, of this review; and Sophia, the wife of Andrew Seaman, who resides in Union Grove township.

William Fletcher was reared in England to the age of sixteen years and since coming to America has twice returned upon a visit to his native country. He crossed the Atlantic first with his father and assisted in the early development and improvement of the home farm and in its later cultivation as well, continuing with his father until the latter's death. He began farming on his own account, however, when twenty-one or twenty-two years of age, securing a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres on section 17, Union Grove township. A part of this he purchased more than forty years ago for two dollars and a half per acre and with characteristic energy he began to plow and plant the fields, for hitherto the land was wild and unimproved. For many years he continued to operate that farm with good success, but about six years ago sold the property to Elisha Hartman, of Morrison.

Since age conferred upon William Fletcher the right of franchise he has given unfaltering allegiance to the republican party but has constantly refused to become a candidate for office, although his fellow townsmen have

solicited him to do so. Socially he is connected with Globe Lodge, No. 57, I. O. O. F., of Morrison, and he was baptized in the Episcopal church. He is one of the oldest subscribers of the Sentinel in Whiteside county and has always kept in touch through his paper and other reading with the trend of modern thought and events. As he looks back over the past he notes many changes which have occurred, bringing about a different method of life in the home, in the fields and in commercial sections as well. He has seen the building of railroads through this county, the extension of telegraph lines, the introduction of the telephone and many other modern business improvements, all of which indicate the onward march of progress.

JESSE MISHLER.

There are many interesting chapters in the life record of Jesse Mishler, who, dependant upon his own resources from an early age, has attained a position among the men of affluence in Whiteside county. He traveled across the plains to California before the era of railroad transportation and had military experience as a soldier of the Civil war. His birth occurred in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, December 12, 1838, and in both the paternal and maternal lines he comes of Swiss ancestry. His father, Jacob Mishler, also a native of the Keystone state, was a laborer in the east and in 1840 removed westward to Elkhart county, Indiana, where he cleared a tract of land and engaged in farming. While in Pennsylvania he married Miss Martha Blough, also a native of that state, and their last days were spent in Indiana, the mother dying at the age of fifty-two years, while the father passed away in St. Joseph county at the age of seventy-five years. Their family numbered five sons and five daughters.

Jesse Mishler, who is the only survivor, was in his second year at the time of his parents' removal to Elkhart county, Indiana, where he was reared upon a farm to the age of eighteen years and thus early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. After his mother's death he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a number of years. In 1856 he and his older brother went to Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and the next year returned to Indiana. In 1859, however, they again went to Fort Des Moines and in the spring of that year started across the plains to California, arriving at Hangtown, now Placerville, in September. The trip was made with five yoke of oxen. They had no trouble until they reached the head of Snake river about eighty miles north of Salt Lake, where they were attacked by Indians. Mr. Mishler's outfit and two other wagons were about three miles in advance of the remainder of the train when they were attacked by the red men. The Indians took seven head of Mr. Mishler's oxen and in all carried off twenty-one head. Seven men of the outfit followed the Indians on foot for thirty miles in the mountains and succeeded in recovering seven head of oxen by reason of the fact that those animals had strayed away from the others and the Indians left them behind.

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JESSE MISHLER



MRS. JESSE E MISHLER

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The day before their cattle were stolen the party passed a man who was taking a drove of cattle through to California. He was James Gimble, from Peoria, Illinois. The next day he caught up with Mr. Mishler's train and the party bought oxen of him. The two outfits traveled together from that time on across the desert, there being now about sixty men in the train. After reaching Carson river Mr. Mishler's brother remained with Mr. Gimble, while Jesse Mishler and four companions made their packs and started on foot across the mountains to Hangtown. He later went to Folsom and worked on the western end of the Union Pacific railroad from September until December. He then proceeded to Sacramento, where he hired out to work on a ranch for six months. He was next employed in a dairy in the service of one man for three years, receiving thirty dollars per month and board. During all this time that he spent on the Pacific coast he heard not a word from any of his people. In 1862 he started for Alaska, but on reaching Cariboo, British Columbia, was so disgusted that he took a steamer on the return trip to New York city by way of the Panama route, proceeding first to Goshen, Indiana, and then to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he arrived in July, 1863. In 1864 he enlisted for one hundred days' service in the Union army, but remained at the front for nearly six months, being engaged in guarding railroads in Tennessee. He was then discharged in Chicago in October of that year.

Mr. Mishler was married in Sterling on the 25th of September, 1866, Miss Lizzie Snavelly becoming his wife. She was a daughter of Elias and Mary (Mohler) Snavelly. The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm and Mr. Mishler continued to engage in agricultural pursuits in Sterling township, east of the city, for twenty-three years. He lived upon his mother-in-law's farm and at her death he and his wife inherited one-half of the eighty acres. He then purchased the other half and now owns one hundred and twenty acres in that farm, also another farm of one hundred and fourteen acres known as the Andrews farm, his property interests thus returning him a gratifying income and permitting his retirement from active business. Since 1889 he has lived in Sterling in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mishler were born three sons and a daughter: Sylvester, who is engaged in the agricultural implement business at Bellwood, Nebraska, and who married a Miss Berkey, by whom he has five children; Melvin, who is engaged in fruit-raising at Miami, Date county, Florida, and who married Sarah Landis, by whom he has two children, Samuel and Lottie; Calvin, who is married and is a photographer of Gallup, New Mexico; and Rachel, the wife of Emanuel Keller, of South Dakota, and the mother of one son. Mr. Mishler's first wife died in November, 1888, at the age of forty-two years, and in 1889 he wedded Mrs. August Sherrer, who passed away in August, 1905, at the age of seventy-three years. In 1906 he married Miss Clara Beffel, of Racine, Wisconsin.

In politics Mr. Mishler is a republican, but has never been an office-seeker. His wife is a member of the Catholic church. Since 1889 he has lived retired and owns and occupies a fine residence at No. 112 Fifth avenue.

He also has a number of other residence properties in Sterling, eleven in all, and his property interests yield him a very gratifying income. He has always been a hard-working, thrifty man, and to his own labors, diligence and perseverance his success is attributable. His life should serve to encourage and inspire others who have to start out as he did—empty-handed. His record proves that success can be gained by persistent effort and that an honored name may be won simultaneously.

JOHN S. BROWN.

John S. Brown, who follows the occupation of farming in Coloma township, where in connection with the tilling of the soil he is a dealer in fine draft and coach horses, is known in the community as a wide-awake, alert and enterprising business man. He was born June 13, 1841, in North Stonington, Connecticut, his parents being Thatcher and Eunice (Spalding) Brown, both of whom were natives of the Charter Oak state. The Browns are descendants of three brothers, Thomas, John and Eleazer Brown, who were sons of Thomas and Mary (Newhall) Brown, of Lyme, Massachusetts.

John S. Brown pursued his early education in the common schools and also a partial college course near Rochester, New York. His early boyhood was passed in Stonington, Connecticut, but at the age of seventeen years he removed to the Empire state, residing in the vicinity of Rochester in Monroe county. The year 1862 witnessed his arrival at Grand De Tour, Ogle county, Illinois. He was then a young man of twenty-one years and he resided in that locality until 1871, when he removed to Coloma township, Whiteside county. Here he has carried on general agricultural pursuits and is today the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and seventy acres, all of which he has brought under cultivation. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and also deals in high class draft and coach horses and both branches of his business are proving profitable.

On the 11th of February, 1864, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Cornelia Turner, a daughter of Z. B. and Emily (Day) Turner, who were natives of New Hampshire and Vermont respectively. They came to Illinois in 1836, settling first in Ogle county. The father died there at the advanced age of eighty-seven years and the mother passed away when seventy years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born four children: Dan E., who resides in Rock Island; Frank T., who is associated with his father in farming and the breeding of horses; Walter B., who is superintendent of the Victor Chemical Works, of Chicago, and is an expert chemist; and Frederick Arthur, at home.

Mr. Brown exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. The honors and emoluments of office, however, have no attraction for him, as he prefers to give his undivided attention to his

business affairs. In religious faith he is a Methodist and he cooperates in many movements for the public good, earnestly desiring the upbuilding and progress of the community along lines which are of lasting benefit. In his business affairs he is found thoroughly reliable and trustworthy, never taking advantages of the necessities of another in a business transaction, while his laudable ambition and unflinching energy are dominant factors in his success.

CHARLES STURTZ.

Among those who in former years were connected with the development of the rich, natural resources of Whiteside county in agricultural lines and are now living retired is numbered Charles Sturtz, who makes his home at No. 713 Second avenue, in Sterling. The place of his nativity is Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and the date July 6, 1837. The family comes of German lineage, but was established in the Keystone state at an early day. The grandfather, Christian Sturtz, was there born and reared, and devoted his life to general farming. Both he and his wife reached advanced years and reared a large family, which included John Sturtz, father of our subject, who was born in Pennsylvania, and for many years followed farming in Somerset county, near Wellersburg. There he died in 1869 when about sixty-seven years of age. He married Rebecca Beal, likewise a native of Pennsylvania, as were her parents. She survived her husband for a number of years, and was about eighty at the time of her death. Both were members of the Lutheran church. Their family numbered fourteen children. Six are yet living: Herman, a resident of Sterling; Christina, the wife of James Close, of Wellersburg, Pennsylvania; Charles, of Sterling; Noah, of Iowa; Louise, the wife of Enoch Long, of Rock Falls, Illinois; and Edward, of Coshocton, Ohio.

Charles Sturtz was reared upon the home farm in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, assisting in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. His early education, acquired in the district schools, was supplemented by study in the Normal school, and he remained at home until he had attained his majority, after which he continued to operate the home farm on shares for several years. When the country needed the aid of her loyal sons he offered his services to the Union, enlisting in 1862 in Company H of the One Hundred and Seventy-first Pennsylvania regiment, with which he served for about ten months. In February, 1865, he again joined the boys in blue, with whom he continued until mustered out in Baltimore in June of that year. He participated in a number of skirmishes, but in no pitched battles. After the war he returned home to Somerset county, and in 1869 came west with his wife and five children, settling in Montmorency township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which he lived until 1903. In the interim he brought his farm under a high state of cultivation, transforming it into a richly

improved tract, from which he annually gathered good harvests. As the years passed, the sale of his crops brought to him a good financial return, and in 1903 he purchased a beautiful home at No. 713 Second avenue, where he and his wife still reside.

The lady who bears his name was in her maidenhood Miss Catharine Kennel, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (River) Kennel, natives of Somerset county, Pennsylvania. Her paternal grandfather, Christian Kennel, was likewise born in that state, and there married Hannah Leidig. They had twelve children and were well advanced in years when called to their final rest. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Sturtz were Peter and Catharine (Long) River, natives of Pennsylvania. The grandfather was a farmer and their family numbered thirteen or fourteen children, six of whom reached maturity. Samuel Kennel, the father of Mrs. Sturtz, was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and there died at the age of sixty-nine years, while his wife lived to the age of seventy-seven years. They were the parents of two sons and four daughters: Mrs. Sturtz; Hannah, the deceased wife of Jesse Sturtz, of Ellerslie, Maryland; Jesse, also of Ellerslie; Josiah, a resident of Scottdale, Pennsylvania; Samuel, who makes his home in Ellerslie, Maryland; and Jonathan, of Wellersburg, Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Sturtz had a family of thirteen children, ten sons and three daughters. Oscar, the eldest, who died in July, 1904, had married Daisy Willis and left two daughters, Hazel and Lucille. Charles Elmer, who is state's attorney in Henry county, Illinois, married Alice Price and has two daughters, Zola and Catharine. Alice is the wife of Herman Bachman, of Dixon, and they have three children, Clyde, Lulu and Esther. Wilson is a barber at Los Angeles, California. Martha is the wife of Arthur Emmett, of Sterling, and they have three children, Ethel and Edith, twins, and Lloyd. Grant is a practicing dentist of Marinette, Wisconsin, who married Olga Johnson, and has one son, Lloyd. Louis, a photographer of Green Bay, Wisconsin, married Nettie Cole and has one son, Travers C. Herman, a dentist of Iron Mountain, Michigan, married Bessie Battle, and has a daughter, Muriel. Lawrence, who operates the home farm, married Annie Sanger and they have a daughter, Elsie. Cora is the wife of Clarence Ward, of Van Patten, Illinois, and they have two sons, Harold and Louis. Edward, a stenographer and bookkeeper of Chicago, married Marie Johnson, by whom he has a daughter, Loraine. LeRoy and Harry are at home and the latter is now a senior in the high school of Sterling.

The parents are members of the Lutheran church and are much esteemed in the community, where the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended them. In politics Mr. Sturtz is an earnest republican, having stanchly supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He was township assessor and collector while living on the farm, and in Pennsylvania served as justice of the peace, but his aspirations have not been in the line of office holding, although in matters of citizenship he is never remiss. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp, and also to the Grant Army Post of Sterling, and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. He has always manifested the same spirit of patriot-

ism that he displayed when in the south he espoused the Union cause. During his residence in Whiteside county he has made an excellent record for upright manhood and honorable citizenship, and may well be classed with the representative men of the community.

URIAH NELSON JACOBS.

Uriah Nelson Jacobs, a prominent and successful agriculturist residing on section 11, Jordan township, is one of the native sons of Whiteside county, his natal day being August 4, 1858. His parents, John Adam and Catherine (Stary) Jacobs, were both natives of Germany. The father left his native land when but a youth, embarking on a vessel that brought him to the shores of the new world in seventy days—enough time by modern means of travel to encircle the globe. On arriving at Baltimore, Maryland, a young German lad, unable to speak a word of English, he had but seven cents in his pocket. Believing that a farming community offered more opportunities for employment to one in his position than the city, he started to make his way on foot to the country. While trudging along the highway he was overtaken by a man named Werhime, who was driving a team. Mr. Werhime asked the boy to ride with him and, being able to speak German, he soon discovered that his companion was a new arrival in this country and in quest of work. On further learning that Mr. Jacobs was a skilled edge-tool maker, he invited the lad to remain at his home over night, saying that the next day they would go to town and see if they could not obtain employment for him. In accordance with his promise, Mr. Werhime took him to a firm that was endeavoring to manufacture feed-cutting machines, but on account of not being able to get an edge on their knives had not met with any degree of success. Mr. Jacobs felt very proud when he was told that he was the very man they needed if he could give the tools the right temper, for he felt sure that he could prove his worth. The members of the firm knew that any one who had learned a trade in Germany was thoroughly instructed and this gave them some confidence in the applicant's ability, but when Mr. Jacobs told them that their shop, especially the forges, would have to be reconstructed in order to do the work, they began to realize that he knew his business. By following out Mr. Jacobs' instructions the firm soon gained a large degree of prosperity, and so well were their knives tempered that some of them are in use to this day.

Mr. Jacobs carefully saved his earnings, and in the year 1853, having accumulated about two thousand dollars, he decided to try his fortune in the middle west. He journeyed by rail to Mendota, Illinois, thence by stage coach to Dixon, the Illinois Central Railroad being in course of construction at that time. He first purchased forty acres of land on section 11, Jordan township, Whiteside county, improved that tract and by dint of hard work and careful management was able to add to his possessions from time to time until he owned nine hundred and forty acres, his prosperity being entirely

the result of his own labor and indefatigable enterprise. During the earlier part of his career in Whiteside county, when borrowing money with which to purchase land, he paid as high as twenty-five per cent interest. He had only one brother, who remained in Germany, and from whom he did not hear for over forty years, but finally located him through some correspondence and sent for him to come to America. It is also interesting to note that Mr. Werhime, who assisted Mr. Jacobs when he was in sure dire need, later became a resident of this county through the influence of his former protege.

Mr. Jacobs belonged to that class of enterprising and public-spirited citizens who, while attaining individual success, also contribute to the general welfare and upbuilding of the community by their interest and active participation in the work of public improvement. He served as road commissioner for some time and was widely and favorably known as one of the county's honored pioneers. He passed away as the result of an accident on the 22d of September, 1882, at the age of sixty-four years, while his wife survived until August, 1892, having also attained the age of sixty-four years. In their family were nine children, six of whom are yet living: John, who died in childhood; Lydia Ann, also deceased; Samuel, who is a farmer of Poweshiek county, Iowa; Moses, who passed away in Iowa; John Adam; Emanuel, who resides in Sterling; Uriah Nelson, of this review; Jeremiah Francis; and Lydia Ann, the wife of John J. Buckley.

Uriah Nelson Jacobs acquired his education in the common schools, and when twenty-two years of age started out in life for himself as a farmer, and has successfully followed agricultural pursuits ever since. After his marriage he settled with his wife on the old home farm, which they still occupy, the place comprising two hundred and sixty acres, most of which is rented. It is among the most highly cultivated land in Whiteside county, and the farm is one of the attractive features of the landscape, while the home of the family is a beautiful structure nestled among a deep grove of tall pines.

On the 14th of December, 1881, Mr. Jacobs was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Maxwell, a daughter of Archibald and Elizabeth (Allison) Maxwell, natives of Scotland. The father was born in Lancashire, Scotland, a son of John and Jeannette (Cunningham) Maxwell, natives of the same part of Scotland. Archibald Maxwell came to America in 1854 and settled in Jordan township, Whiteside county, journeying by rail from New York to Chicago, and thence to St. Charles, which was the terminus of the railroad. His first purchase of land consisted of forty acres from the Illinois Central Railroad at eighteen dollars per acre, which he improved, and on which he resided for some time, gradually adding to his landed holdings as the years passed by. His first presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln, and he remained a stanch advocate of republican principles until about ten years ago, when he identified himself with the prohibition party. He has been school director for many years, and has been an active factor in the upbuilding and development of the county from pioneer times down to the present, his influence being ever on the side of reform and progress in political, intellectual and material lines. In the conduct of his farming interests he has

met with a well merited degree of success, and is widely recognized as a prosperous and enterprising citizen of the community. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Uriah N. Jacobs has been born a son, Archie Shirly, who is attending school at Polo.

In his political views Mr. Jacobs was formerly a democrat, but in recent years has voted the prohibition ticket, for he believes that the temperance question is of paramount importance in the United States today. He has served as a school director for seventeen years, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart friend. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the United Brethren church, while fraternally he is connected with the Mystic Workers Lodge, No. 125, at Jordan Center. One of the native sons of Whiteside county, his acquaintance is a wide one, and that his life has ever been an upright and honorable one is indicated by the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from boyhood.

HENRY SAUER.

Henry Sauer, who for a third of a century has been identified with the business interests of Morrison, where he now owns and controls a hardware and steam heating business, dealing in both shelf and heavy hardware and in tinware, is one of Illinois' native sons, his birth having occurred in Kankakee county in 1852. He is the eldest of the five children of Michael and Katherine (Steinhilber) Sauer, both of whom were natives of Germany. They are now living in Kankakee, the former at the age of seventy-eight years and the latter at the age of eighty-five. They came to the United States in 1850 and took up their abode at Kankakee, which was then a small village, the Chicago branch of the Illinois Central Railroad having but recently been completed at that time. In his native country Mr. Sauer was a weaver and on coming to Illinois he conducted a stone quarry for a number of years. Both he and his wife are members of the German Evangelical church and in his political views he was long a democrat but is now a stalwart republican. Well advanced in years, this worthy couple enjoy the high regard of all who know them and have a very wide acquaintance in the city of their residence. In addition to Henry Sauer the other members of the family are: John, who was long connected with the regular army and now makes his home in California; Albert, of Rock Island, Illinois, who is serving in the regular army but is soon to be retired; Katie, of Morris, Illinois; and Jacob, a tinsmith and merchant of Kankakee.

In the public schools of Kankakee, Henry Sauer began his education and later he attended public and private schools in Morris, Illinois. When he put aside his text-books he began learning the tinner's trade, which he followed in Morris for six years and also spent some time in that way at Galesburg, Illinois. In September, 1874, he arrived in Morrison, where he worked at his trade for Robert Wallace for three years. He then bought

a half interest in the hardware firm of A. A. Bruce and the business was conducted under the firm style of A. A. Bruce & Company. In 1878 Mr. Bruce retired and Mr. Sauer assumed sole control of the business. He carries a good line of hardware, stoves, tinware and steam heating apparatus, and has built up an excellent trade, which is constantly increasing in volume and importance. His annual sales have long since reached a profitable figure and have brought to him a very desirable competence.

In 1880 Mr. Sauer was married to Miss Mattie Bruce, who was born in Sterling, Illinois, in 1856, a daughter of A. A. and Julia Bruce, early settlers of Morrison, and the former at one time a partner of Mr. Sauer. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sauer have been born four children: Alfred H., born in 1881, who is an attorney at law of Pigeon, Michigan; Archer E., who is in business with his father; Roland B., who graduated from the Morrison high school in the class of 1908 and is now learning the jeweler's trade; and Flora E., who is attending school. The family home is an attractive, modern residence and the members of the household have many warm friends. In his fraternal relations Mr. Sauer is a Mason and since age has conferred upon him the right of franchise he has been a stalwart republican. Deeply interested in community affairs, he has exercised his official prerogatives in support of many movements for the public good. He served as alderman of the third ward for two terms and was on the board when a franchise was granted to the electric light company. He acted on the committee and investigated other electric light plants preparatory to the establishment of one in Morrison. Mr. Sauer is a self-made man, whose success in life is attributable entirely to his own efforts. Faithfulness to duty will do more to advance a man's interests than any other one thing and it has been this which has won for Mr. Sauer the creditable position which he now occupies in business circles and in public regard.

PETER E. BURKE.

The history of Peter E. Burke, now one of the substantial and prosperous agriculturists of Tampico township, is that of a self-made man, who at the age of seventeen years started out in life for himself and has since been dependent upon his own efforts. Obstacles and difficulties have blocked his path and in the face of disasters which would utterly have disheartened many a man of less resolute spirit he has shown the strongest determination and the most commendable courage. Retrieving the losses caused by tornado and fire and gradually making orderly progress he stands today as one of the men of affluence in Whiteside county, respected and honored by all who know him for what he has accomplished.

He was born in Buckingham, Canada, June 29, 1850, his parents being Michael and Mary (Carden) Burke, both of whom were natives of Ireland. In early life the father crossed the Atlantic to Canada to secure a location and then returned to Ireland, where he organized a colony which he brought



MR. AND MRS. P. E. BURKE

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with him to the new world in the early '30s. He located at Buckingham in the midst of a very heavily timbered region and there he married and established his home, building a log cabin. He split staves from the timber to cover the roof and had no floor in the little dwelling. A fireplace in one end of the room served to heat the house, while over the wire hung kettles in which were prepared the meals. Mr. Burke began the arduous and difficult task of clearing a tract of the land and preparing it for the crops. Much of the timber was burned in order to quickly get rid of it, but the ashes of the hard timber were saved and sold to make potash. This was all the means they had for bringing in a little ready money the first year. For three years Mr. and Mrs. Burke lived in their tiny log cabin, which was destitute of many of the comforts of life, but during that time he prospered and was then able to build a two-story house, partly of frame and partly of logs. He also purchased a stove in which could be burned a four-foot stick of wood. It seemed then that this was a great luxury, being in sharp contrast to the methods which they had previously been following for cooking and also for heating the house. Year by year the conditions of pioneer life were replaced by those of a modern civilization and the father continuously carried on the farm work until his death in 1853. The following year the mother came to Illinois with her son Peter and one daughter and remained a resident of this state until her demise in 1877. In the family were six children, but four of the number died in infancy, the sister of our subject being Katherine, now the widow of Owen McCabe, and a resident of Tampico, Illinois.

Peter E. Burke was only three years old at the time of his father's death and was a little lad of four years when brought by his mother to Illinois. Here he was reared and at the age of seventeen he started out in life on his own account, renting a farm which he cultivated for four years. On the expiration of that period he turned his attention to merchandising, opening a grocery and queensware business in Tampico, in which he was very successful, soon building up a large trade. During the second year, however, a tornado struck the little town of Tampico and demolished his store, upon which he carried no insurance. He made a second start, however, and rebuilt the store. In 1874, however, disaster again overtook him, this time a fire breaking out and destroying his store, which, however, rose, Phoenixlike, from the ashes. With undaunted courage and determination he again embarked in business, which he successfully carried on until 1886, in the meantime securing a large and profitable trade. In the year mentioned he disposed of his store and turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, purchasing eighty acres of land on section 25, Tampico township, where he now resides. As the years have passed he has added to his realty holdings until he now owns three hundred and thirty-three acres in this county. He is now engaged in general farming and also makes a specialty of raising and feeding stock. Both branches of his business are carefully conducted and from his property he derives a good annual income.

Mr. Burke was married April 4, 1872, to Miss Elizabeth C. Graham, who was born in the state of New York, March 31, 1853, a daughter of James and Mary Ann (Sterling) Graham, who were natives of Ireland and came

to America in the early '50s. Their family numbered three children: Alford J., now living in Bureau county, Illinois; Mrs. Burke; and Caroline, the wife of Frank Adams, of Bureau county. The parents are both now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burke were born five children: James S., who received his education in the public schools of the county; William, who is a graduate of the Tampico high school; Mary V.; Caroline M.; and Katherine, who attended the Lyons Seminary, at Lyons, Iowa. Katherine completed the entire course, graduating not only from the literary department but also from the department of music of that institution. The death of the wife and mother occurred November 29, 1904, and was the occasion of deep regret to many friends as well as to her immediate family.

Mr. Burke and his children are members of the Catholic church. In politics he has always been a democrat, but never an office-seeker, although he served as drainage commissioner for several years. He has a wide acquaintance in the village of Tampico and throughout this section of the county and is justly respected for what he has accomplished and the honorable, straightforward business methods he has followed.

LOUIS N. SOX.

Louis N. Sox, a retired farmer and manager at Sterling for the Palmyra Mutual Insurance Company, was born in Sterling township, this county, February 4, 1854. His parents were Herman and Margaret (Owens) Sox, natives of Germany and Pennsylvania respectively. The former was a son of Selig and Rosa Sox, who spent their entire lives in Germany, where they reared their family of nine children: Hirtz, Myers, Herman, Abram, Louis, Hirsch, Hannah, Rosa and Emma. Of these, Herman Sox came to America when eighteen years of age and settled near Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, where he married Miss Margaret Owens, a native of that state and a daughter of Redman and Christiana (Arnold) Owens, who spent their entire lives in Pennsylvania, where they reared their family of children, namely: Christiana, Edward, John, Mary, Hattie and Elizabeth.

Herman Sox, the father, was born November 14, 1814, and remained in Germany until 1835, when he crossed the Atlantic to the United States. He had acquired a common-school education in the fatherland and also obtained a knowledge of soap and candle manufacture. After coming to the new world he spent three years in Philadelphia and on attaining his majority he removed to St. Louis, Missouri. The year 1837 witnessed his arrival in Whiteside county, so that he was one of its first settlers. When he came here almost the entire county was just as it appeared when it came from the hand of nature but the district was rich in its possibilities, and he lived to witness many changes which transformed it into one of the finest agricultural counties of the state. For five years he worked by the month as a farm hand and afterward rented land until he had acquired sufficient capital to enable him to purchase two hundred and forty acres in Sterling township. He afterward sold eighty acres of that tract and brought

the remaining one hundred and sixty acres under a high state of cultivation. He placed thereon fine buildings and made it one of the best homes of the county.

In Pennsylvania, on the 27th of December, 1838, Herman Sox was married to Miss Margaret Owens, who was born in that state, November 14, 1814, the same day on which her husband's birth occurred. Their children were Emily, Jane, Ella, Edward F., Hattie, Mary, Louis N., Harmon E. and Amanda, all living but Mary. In the death of the parents the county lost two of its best known and most worthy pioneer settlers, for from an early period in the development of the county the family has figured prominently in its growth and substantial improvement.

Louis N. Sox was reared upon the home farm in Sterling township and at the usual age became a pupil in the district schools, while later he attended the public schools of Sterling. During the periods of vacation he assisted in the work of the home farm and after he had attained his majority he began providing for his own support by work as a farm hand and was thus employed until his father's death on the 24th of March, 1888. Herman Sox reached the age of seventy-four years and was survived by his wife until the 7th of June, 1902, when she was nearly eighty-eight years of age. In religious faith she was a Lutheran and possessed many excellent traits of heart and mind. Mr. Sox, whose ability and worth were widely recognized by his fellow townsmen, was several times called to serve in positions of public honor and trust. His business affairs were carefully and ably managed, and in connection with the cultivation of his fields he engaged successfully and extensively in dealing in live-stock.

As stated, Louis N. Sox worked at farm labor until after his father's death, when he purchased the old homestead farm and was thereafter continuously engaged in its further development and management until the spring of 1898, when he rented the place and removed to Sterling, where he purchased and improved a beautiful residence at No. 809 Second avenue. He still owns the home farm of sixteen acres and it brings him a good rental. While living in Sterling he has been manager of the Palmyra Mutual Insurance Company and in this connection has a lucrative position. His political views accord with the principles of the republican party and he is a firm advocate of the party policy although he has never sought or desired office for himself.

On the 30th of June, 1902, Mr. Sox was married to Miss Addie Gift, a daughter of John A. and Mary Ann (Arnold) Gift, and a granddaughter of David Gift. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania and lived near Chambersburg. The father died in 1883, at the age of forty-five years, and the mother, still surviving, lives at the old home place. They were the parents of the following children who reached adult age: Robert, David, Jennie, William, John, Addie, Ella, James, Elliott and Clara. The father was a farmer by occupation and served his country as a soldier in the Civil war.

Mr. and Mrs. Sox are members of the Lutheran church and are well known in Sterling and this part of the county, for the hospitality of their

home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends: Mr. Sox belongs to one of the oldest families of the county. The name has figured in connection with the agricultural development of this part of the state for seven decades and the members of the family have ever stood for upright citizenship, reliability in business and progress in every relation of life.

JOHN COURTRIGHT.

John Courtright, who is now living retired, receiving a good income from valuable property interests, has made his home in Whiteside county since 1852 and has therefore been a witness of much of its growth and upbuilding. He has taken a deep interest in its progress and has contributed in substantial measure to its agricultural development, and now in his retirement from business he watches its continued progress with pride.

He has attained the age of eighty-four years, his birth having occurred in Sussex county, New Jersey, October 10, 1823. He is a son of Reuben Courtright and a grandson of Samuel Courtright. The latter, a native of New Jersey, was a farmer by occupation, reared a large family and died in old age. Reuben Courtright, also born in New Jersey, followed agricultural pursuits as a life work and cast in his lot with the early settlers of Genesee township, Whiteside county. There he continued to make his home up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was eighty-six years of age. In early manhood he wedded Deborah Bedell, also a native of New Jersey, her parents being farming people of Sussex county. She died in middle life and Mr. Courtright afterward married Elizabeth Van Nettan, who is also now deceased. There were ten children, four sons and six daughters, of the first marriage, of whom three still survive: Catharine, the widow of William Woolley, now living in Omaha, Nebraska, at the age of ninety-two years; Margaret, the widow of Franklin Woolley and a resident of Sterling at the age of eighty-six years; and John, who is eighty-four years of age. There were also ten children of the father's second marriage and the four who survive are: Lydia Ann, the wife of William Howard, of Sterling; George Courtright, of this city; Josephine, the wife of Henry Shively, of Peoria, Illinois; and Aaron Courtright, of Denver, Colorado.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for John Courtright in his boyhood and youth. He was reared in Sussex county, where he acquired his education, and when not busy with his textbooks he assisted in the work of tilling the soil. After he had reached manhood he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a number of years. While still living in the east he was married, in 1848, to Miss Sarah A. Trauger and in 1852 they removed westward to Illinois with their daughter, settling in Genesee township, Whiteside county. During the first summer Mr. Courtright worked at his trade and afterward bought a farm, to which he has since added. The property is therefore extensive and valuable and its fine appearance indicates his careful supervision and practical meth-

ods. He broke the sod, planted the first crops, built a house and otherwise improved the place, converting it into a productive tract. He paid three dollars and a half per acre for the first farm, which is today worth one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. He also owns another farm of seventy-five acres near the old homestead, together with one hundred and sixty acres in North Dakota, an interest in eighty acres in Ustick township and a half section in Greeley county, Kansas. Great changes have occurred since he came to the county fifty-five years ago, for the once wild land has been converted into rich and productive farms, in the midst of which thriving towns and villages have sprung up, affording all the advantages of a modern civilization.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Courtright were born a daughter and son. The former, Amanda Jane, became the wife of Francis Adelbert Gould, of Sterling, and they have a son, John L., who married Nellie Cokersberger and has three children—Francis Adelbert, George Raymond and Leon Lester. The brother of Mrs. Gould was Lester Courtright, who died at the age of six years. The mother died December 31, 1906, when more than eighty years of age, in the faith of the Methodist church, of which she had long been a consistent and devoted member. Her loss was deeply deplored by the church and her friends, as well as her husband and daughter. She was devoted to the welfare of her home and family and displayed many of the sterling qualities of the ideal wife and mother.

Mr. Courtright owns and occupies a fine brick residence at No. 712 First avenue. He is a stockholder of the State Bank of Sterling and his industry in former years, resulting in judicious investment in property and stocks, has made him financially independent, permitting him now to enjoy a well earned rest. In 1891 he left the farm and removed to the city, where he has since made his home. He has held various township offices and as school director has done effective service in behalf of the cause of education. Politically he is a republican with unfaltering faith in the principles of the party. A review of his life shows that in business he has been diligent as well as reliable, that in citizenship he has been loyal to the best interests of the community and that his social acquaintances know him as a tried and trusted friend.

HERMAN STURTZ.

Among the residents of Sterling who have passed the scriptural span of three score years and ten is Herman Sturtz, who has reached the seventy-ninth milestone on life's journey, his natal day being January 7, 1829, and the place of his birth Somerset county, Pennsylvania. The family comes of German ancestry and was founded in America in colonial days. The grandfather, Christian Sturtz, was a native of Pennsylvania, where he followed farming in support of his family, and until the time of his death, which occurred when he was sixty years of age. His wife, Mrs. Margaret Sturtz, lived to be

about seventy-five years of age. They had seven sons and seven daughters, all of whom reached adult age and were married, while nearly all of them became residents of Ohio.

John Sturtz, the father of our subject, was born in the Keystone state and was reared to the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. He married Rebecca Korns, a daughter of John and Mary (Korns) Beal, who were likewise natives of Pennsylvania, the father being of German descent. He was a farmer and died when about forty-five years of age, while his wife reached the age of seventy-five years. They, too, became parents of seven sons and seven daughters, and the following children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. John Sturtz: Herman and Charles, who are residents of Sterling; Noah, of Iowa; Edward, of Coshocton, Ohio; Catharine, the deceased wife of William Beal; Margaret, the deceased wife of Jacob Beal; Christina, the wife of James Close, of Wellersburg, Pennsylvania; Susan, the deceased wife of Jacob M. Kennell, of Kennell's Mill, Pennsylvania; Louisa, the wife of Enoch Long, of Rock Falls, Illinois; and three who died in childhood. The father died at the age of sixty-seven years, while his wife reached the age of seventy-six years. He devoted his life to farming and held various township offices, to which he was called by the vote of his fellow citizens.

Herman Sturtz was reared to farm life upon the old homestead in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and when the work of the fields was over for the year he entered the public schools, thus acquiring a fair English education. He continued to assist his father until after he had attained his majority and in 1855 he sought a home in the west, believing that he could secure business advancement more rapidly in a district less thickly settled. Arriving in Whiteside county, he purchased eighty acres of land in Montmorency township from Henry T. Noble, paying four dollars per acre, and at once began the development of a farm, first erecting a frame house of two rooms. Upon this farm he made his home for forty-six years. His untiring industry and diligence during that period transformed it from a wild tract of land into one of rich fertility and as his financial resources increased he extended its boundaries from time to time until he became the owner of four hundred acres. As the years passed he prospered in his undertakings, for in his farm work he was eminently practical, and his labors were guided by sound judgment. In June, 1902, he left the farm and removed to Sterling, purchasing a beautiful home at No. 501 First avenue, where he and his wife now reside. He has sold his land in this county but still owns sixteen hundred and thirty-two acres in Trego and Graham counties, Kansas, and derives therefrom a good income.

The marriage of Mr. Sturtz was celebrated on the 9th of October, 1851, when Miss Catharine Long became his wife. She was a granddaughter of Jonathan Long, who was born, lived and died in Pennsylvania. His wife was Sarah (Troutman) Long, who passed away in her fiftieth year. Jonathan Long, the father of Mrs. Sturtz, was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, was a farmer by occupation and also conducted a sawmill for many years. He married Sarah Troutman, also a native of the Keystone state

and a daughter of William and Mary (Korns) Troutman, who were born in Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer and became connected with the middle west in pioneer times. He served as a soldier in the Black Hawk war. His death occurred in Pennsylvania when he had reached the age of eighty-six years and his wife died when past middle life. They were the parents of three sons and four daughters, including Mrs. Long. At an early period in the development and settlement of Northampton township, Whiteside county, Jonathan Long and his wife took up their abode there and were closely associated with its early progress and improvement. He was an active worker and elder in the Lutheran church. He died when more than eighty-three years of age, while his wife passed away at the age of fifty-five years and three months. They had ten children, six of whom reached adult age, while three are now living: Susan, who became the wife of Louis Hullinger and after his death married a Mr. Patton, who is also now deceased; Catharine, who is now Mrs. Sturtz; and Enoch Long, of Rock Falls, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Sturtz have had no children of their own but have given a good home to four children. They are consistent and faithful members of the Presbyterian church and their Christianity is an element in their daily lives. Mr. Sturtz belongs to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and in politics has always been a republican since the formation of the party. For four years he was supervisor of Montmorency township and was school director for twenty-one years, while for a time he served as road commissioner and for a long period was school trustee. He has always stood for progressive citizenship and has contributed to the substantial growth and progress of the community by the cooperation which he has given to many movements for the general good. In his business life he has won that prosperity which ever crowns earnest, persistent, well directed and honorable effort and is therefore now enabled to enjoy the comforts and some of the luxuries of life while living retired in Sterling.

CHARLES T. RUSSELL.

Charles T. Russell is one of the best known native sons of Sterling, and his salient characteristics are such as entitle him to mention among its representative men. He was for a number of years well known in banking circles here, but is now living retired, his home being at No. 602 Second street. One of the native sons of Whiteside county, his birth occurred in Como, on the 25th of March, 1860, his parents being Charles N. and Julia Turner (Sampson) Russell, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. The family remained at Como until October, 1863, when the parents came with their children to Sterling, and here Charles T. Russell was reared. At the usual age he entered the public schools and passed through successive grades until he had acquired a good English education. He entered business life as a clerk and was employed in that capacity for several years, after which

he accepted the position of bookkeeper in the Sterling National Bank and there remained for eleven years. Since that time he has lived retired.

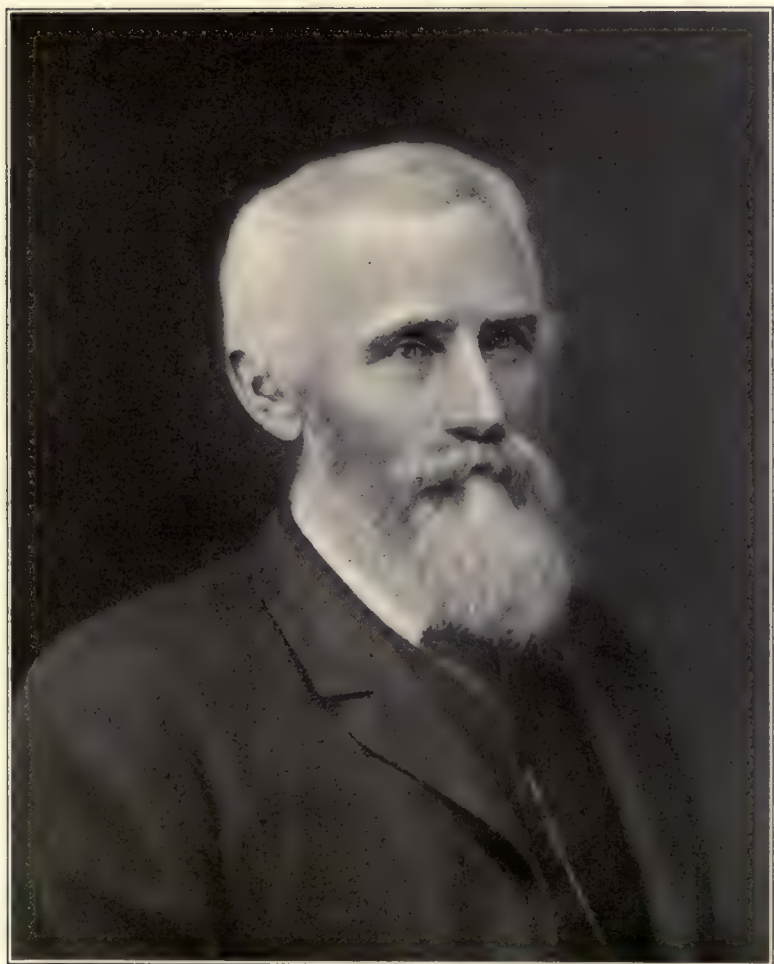
On the 5th. of September, 1889, Mr. Russell was married to Miss May C. Hubbard, a daughter of Charles C. and Lucia Aurora (Reed) Hubbard, who were natives of Vermont, living at Thetford. They were married in 1840 and in 1848 removed westward, settling in Dover township, Bureau county, where the father engaged in farming and also in merchandising. In 1880 he brought his family to Sterling, where he and his wife spent their remaining days, his death occurring in 1883, when he was seventy-one years of age, while Mrs. Hubbard survived until July 20, 1903, and died at the age of eighty-four years. He filled the office of assessor and collector in Dover township, Bureau county, and was a prominent and influential man in his community. Unto him and his wife were born two sons and three daughters. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Russell were Josiah and Agatha Hubbard, the former a native of Vermont and a farmer by occupation. He died there March 7, 1871, when about eighty-seven years of age, and his wife, who was born June 22, 1784, died January 29, 1859, when almost seventy-five years of age. They were the parents of five sons and five daughters. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Russell was Rufus Reed, who was born in Vermont, April 9, 1777, and died January 10, 1852, when almost seventy-five years of age. He cultivated a farm and also conducted a grist and lath mill and was a very active, energetic business man. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Lydia Wallace, was born September 18, 1783, and died in 1860. They had a large family.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell hold membership in the Congregational church and are prominent socially in Sterling, the hospitality of the best homes being cordially extended them; while good cheer at their own fireside makes their home a favorite resort with their many friends. They reside at No. 602 Second street. Politically Mr. Russell is a republican, but without desire or aspiration for office.

JOHN HEISS.

In a history of men whose enterprise and diligence have contributed to the substantial upbuilding and development of the county, mention should be made of John Heiss, who was in former years connected with industrial interests in Morrison and was also connected with agricultural life as the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Clyde township.

He was born in Ingolstadt, Bavaria, Germany, in 1825, and lived to the age of sixty-seven years, passing away in 1892. He remained a resident of the fatherland until more than thirty years of age, when, in 1857, he came to the United States, making his way to Morrison. Here he worked on the stone masonry of the Annan mill. He had previously served for seven years in the German army and a part of that time was spent in the engineers corps, so that he gained a good knowledge of the work. He learned the trade of a



JOHN HEISS

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stone-cutter in his native city and assisted in building a military fort there. After arriving in Morrison he still occupied his time as a stone-cutter, contractor and builder and prepared the stone for the courthouse, the banks and many other prominent buildings, also doing much of the stone work for bridges and culverts throughout the county. As his financial resources increased he made judicious investments in property, becoming the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Clyde township, which is still in possession of his widow. As a business man he was found to be thoroughly reliable, faithfully executing the contracts entrusted to him and at all times following straightforward, honorable methods. He lived upon his farm for a quarter of a century, but hired men to perform the work of the fields, while he continued in active connection with his trade as a contractor and builder.

In 1863 Mr. Heiss was married to Miss Elizabeth Wieneke, who was born in Prussia in 1844, a daughter of Henry and Katherine Wieneke, who came to the United States in 1860 and settled at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The father was a farmer by occupation, and both he and his wife are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Heiss became the parents of ten children, namely: Nora, the wife of Calvin Winerenner, an agriculturist of Wisconsin, by whom she has six children: George, of Clyde township; Charles, a carpenter and contractor of Huron, South Dakota, who is married and has four children; Walter, a merchant of Morrison, who has two children; Henry, who is a stock-dealer of Pueblo, Colorado, is married and has one child; Katherine, at home; William, a merchant of Walker, Iowa, who also has two children; Joseph C., of Colorado; John, a newspaper man of La Crosse, Wisconsin; and Ludwig, at home.

Mr. Heiss belonged to the Catholic church, of which his widow is still a communicant. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow and in politics was independent. He preferred not to seek office or participate actively in political work, but rather to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs, in which he met with a fair measure of success. He stood high in the esteem of his neighbors and friends and he deserved much credit for the success which he achieved, as he came to America in limited financial circumstances. All through his life he used energy, diligence and keen business perception to serve as the foundation for his success, and thus it was he became a prosperous resident of his community.

ABRAM BURKHART.

Sterling township numbers among its citizens many energetic and enterprising farmers, and well known as a representative of this class is Abram Burkhardt, who is living on section 2. He was born July 30, 1857, near Newville, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and is a representative of one of the old families of that state. His father, Abram Burkhardt, Sr., was also a native of Cumberland county, born August 30, 1820, and his life record covered the intervening years to December 25, 1889, when he was called to to his final rest. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Burkholder,

was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, June 21, 1821, and was a daughter of Abram Burkholder. She gave her hand in marriage to Abram Burkhart in Cumberland county, December 10, 1847, and her death occurred May 21, 1881. In their family were seven children, including: Anna, who became the wife of Samuel Burkholder, of Cumberland county; Elizabeth, the wife of C. R. Zimmerman, of the same county; and Mary, who is unmarried and resides on the old homestead, which is located in the southwest corner of Frankford township, Cumberland county, two miles northeast of the borough of Newville. This place has been in possession of the Burkhart family since 1814, and was originally the property of Jacob Burkhart. The other members of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Abram Burkhart, Sr., are: Isaac, who is now living near Newville; Christian, who resides in Mifflin township, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania; John D., who is also living on the old homestead; and Abram, of this review.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of life for Abram Burkhart in his boyhood and youth. He was reared upon the old homestead farm and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. He was in his twenty-fifth year when he determined to try his fortune in the middle west, and on the 1st of March, 1882, arrived in Whiteside county, Illinois, where he has since made his home. In the intervening years his time and energies have been devoted to general agricultural pursuits, and he and his wife are today the owners of valuable property on section 2, Sterling township. It is thoroughly modern in all its equipments, none of the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century being lacking.

It was on the 15th of October, 1891, that Mr. Burkhart was united in marriage to Mrs. Ann Hettie Byers, who resided on section 2, Sterling township. They began their domestic life upon a farm there, but in 1892 disposed of their property on section 2 and bought a farm on section 3, which was their place of residence until they purchased their present home on the northwest quarter of section 2. This is one of the many fine farms of Whiteside county. In its midst stands a beautiful frame residence of commodious proportions and attractive style of architecture. Good barns and other out-buildings are seen upon the place and afford ample shelter for grain and stock, while the well tilled fields bring forth rich harvests and the pasture land affords feeding grounds for high grade cattle and horses.

Mrs. Burkhart is a daughter of Abraham D. Ebersole, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1823. He married Miss Anna Rutt, also a native of that county, born in 1827, and a daughter of Christian Rutt. This branch of the Ebersole family is distinguished in the East India missionary work. Miss Esther Ebersole became the wife of George Lapp, and they are now missionaries in India, while Reuben Ebersole, a graduate of the University of Indiana, is now preparing for that field of labor. They are children of Elias Ebersole, the oldest in the family of nine children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Ebersole. Elias Ebersole is now a resident of Elkhart county, Indiana. The second member of the family is Mrs. Abram Burkhart. The third member was Mrs. John H. Kreider, who came

to this county in 1867 and died in January, 1892. Sabina Ebersole married Amos Landis, and they are now residents of Elkhart county, Indiana. They were married in 1874 and removed to Indiana in 1905. Anna Ebersole became the wife of John L. Reisner about 1878, and they are residents of this county. Michael R. Ebersole, who married Annie Detweiler, of Pennsylvania, in 1881, is a resident of Soudertown, Pennsylvania. Abraham Ebersole is dean of the law department of Benton College, at St. Louis, Missouri. Solomon Ebersole, a graduate of Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, where he completed the course with high honors, is engaged in the practice of medicine in that city. He wedded Lizzie Hershberger, of Grant county, Maryland, about 1902. Amos Ebersole, a graduate of the Oberlin Theological College, of Oberlin, Ohio, and also of the Chicago University, is now a resident of Oberlin. He married Bertha Thummel, of Sterling, Illinois, in 1897. The members of the Ebersole family are all connected with the Mennonite church.

Again taking up the personal history of the second member of the family, we note that Mrs. Burkhart was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, January 18, 1849, and was brought to Whiteside county, Illinois, by her parents in 1867. Two years later, in December, 1869, she became the wife of John J. Byers, who died April 14, 1874. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1844 and came to Illinois about 1865, being one of the early settlers of this part of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Byers had two children. John J., a resident of this county, married Lizzie Snyder, of Jackson county, Minnesota, and they have four children: Victor Stanley, John and Willis Abram, twins, and Gladys Irene. Mr. Byers is farming in Whiteside county, his home being on section 2, Sterling township. The other son, Noah E. Byers, married Emma LaFevre, of Sterling, in June, 1898, and they have two children: Cecil Floyd and Robert LaFevre. Noah E. Byers is a graduate of the Northwestern University, of Chicago, and won the Master of Arts degree from Harvard University. He is now president of the Mennonite College, at Goshen, Indiana.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Burkhart are well known in Sterling township, where they have an extensive circle of friends, those who know them entertaining for them high regard in recognition of their many good traits of character and their loyalty to principles that are most commendable.

HAMILTON WALLACE.

There is nothing that indicates more clearly the attractiveness of Sterling as a place of residence than the fact that many of her native sons have continued to reside here, enjoying the advantages which she offers and the opportunities which she affords for business progress. To this class belongs Hamilton Wallace, who had in former years been closely associated with commercial interests but is now living retired. He was born here on the 26th of July, 1847, and represents one of the prominent old families of the city.

His paternal grandfather, James Hamilton Wallace, was a native of Pennsylvania, who followed farming there as a life work. He died when about eighty years of age and his wife also reached a good old age. Of their family of six sons and one daughter, all are now deceased.

This number included Hugh Wallace, whose birth occurred in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and who became a lawyer, practicing at the Pennsylvania bar when a young man. Removing westward, he became one of the first settlers of Sterling and took up government land, upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. This included a part of the present site of the city and in fact embraces the entire western section of Sterling. He spent thirteen years as an employe in the land office at Dixon under the government but maintained his residence at Sterling, driving each Monday morning to his office and returning on Saturday night. After platting that portion of his land whereon Sterling now stands, he did little save to attend to his land sales and the rise in property values brought him an excellent return upon his investments. He was largely interested in building the hydraulic dam across the Rock river, and he gave to the Northwestern Railroad, then called the Galena Railroad, the right of way for a mile both east and west of the depot. In course of years he became the owner of considerable property and built the Wallace Hotel and the old Wallace Hall, which was afterward converted into an opera house by his son James, who also rebuilt the hotel and the Sterling Mercantile building and the brick block at the corner of B avenue and Third street. The Wallace Hotel was opened by William A. McCune, who conducted it for fifteen years. Through his building operations Mr. Wallace contributed in substantial measure to the improvement of the city. He also built a stone residence on West Third street and there the family lived for nearly a half century. His death occurred, however, in 1861, when he was sixty-six years of age but though many years have since come and gone he is yet remembered by the older settlers, who esteem him as a man of genuine worth and as a citizen of public spirit. His wife long survived him, passing away in 1903, at the age of eighty-six years. She bore the name of Mary Galt, was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and was of Scotch-Irish descent, although her parents were likewise natives of the Keystone state. By her marriage she became the mother of three sons and five daughters, but only three of the number are now living: Agnes, the widow of Roswell Champion, a resident of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Catherine; and Hamilton, of this review.

The last named is the only member of the father's family now living in Sterling and this city has always been his home. At the usual age he began his education in the public schools and later he enjoyed the advantage of scholastic training in Mount Carroll Seminary. When his school days were ended he learned the miller's trade, which he followed for three years and then entered the office of his brother James, who was an attorney here and also conducted a real-estate and insurance business for many years. For some time he was connected with a music house of Sterling and was likewise bookkeeper for the Keystone Manufacturing Company for four years.

He next managed the Randolph Hotel for three or four years. Since that time he has lived retired, deriving a good income from his invested interests.

On the 17th of September, 1869, Hamilton Wallace wedded Miss Anna Rebecca Spence, a daughter of William A. and Elizabeth (Miller) Spence. They have two children, Hugh S. and Jessie Elizabeth. The son is married and is engaged in the real-estate business in Chicago. The daughter became the wife of Fred Heberling, and to them was born a daughter, Mildred, now living in Chicago. Her second husband is Samuel Neide, a traveling salesman residing in Chicago. Mrs. Anna R. Wallace died in 1898, leaving behind many friends who esteemed her for her genuine worth and the warm hearted hospitality which she dispensed in her home.

Mr. Wallace has a very wide acquaintance in Sterling, where he has so long resided and where the family have figured prominently in business life. Like his father, he has taken an active interest in the welfare of the city and prefers it as a place of residence because of his long association with its interests and its people.

JOHN LORKE.

For more than forty-three years John Lorke has been a resident of this part of Illinois, spending the entire time in Carroll and Whiteside counties, and as the years have gone by he has prospered in his undertakings, becoming an extensive landowner, while from his valuable property he derives a gratifying annual income. He was born in Germany, May 4, 1847, and is a son of John and Louisa (Schultz) Lorke. The mother died in Germany but the father came to America in 1865 and purchased land lying in Jordan township, Whiteside county. His remaining days were devoted to general agricultural pursuits and he died in September, 1894, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. His family numbered seven children: Gustave, living in Genesee township; Edward, of Iowa; John, of this review; Mrs. Augusta Boight, living in Jordan township; Pauline, the wife of a Mr. Winkey, of Genesee township; Mrs. Austria Hartman, of Carroll county; and one deceased.

John Lorke spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity, acquired his education in its public schools and when a young man of twenty-three years accompanied his father to the new world, hoping to better his financial resources in this country. Making their way into the Mississippi valley, John Lorke, Jr., located in Carroll county, where he worked by the month for a year. Carefully saving his earnings, he was thus enabled to purchase forty acres of land where he now resides. It was all covered with timber but he cut down the trees, grubbed up the stumps, cleared away the brush, and added to the place, which he converted into one of the finest farms of the locality. As his financial resources have increased he has made further investment in property until he is now the owner of five hundred and ninety-five acres of valuable farming land, of which three hun-

dred and twenty acres lies in Carroll county, while two hundred and seventy-five acres is situated within the borders of the farm upon which he now lives. He has his place in good condition, improved with many substantial buildings and all the modern accessories and conveniences.

In June, 1871, Mr. Lorke was married to Miss Pauline Kopsaka, who was born in Germany February 14, 1845, a daughter of Francis and Wilhelmina Kopsaka. They came to America in 1871, settling in Genesee township, Whiteside county, where the death of the father occurred. The mother still survives and is now living with a son in Iowa. In their family were five children: William, August and Julius, all residents of Iowa; Mrs. Lorke; and Mrs. Augusta Neise, of Arkansas. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lorke have been born eleven children: John, a resident of Carroll county; George, Charles, William and Edward, all at home; Lena, the wife of Fred Shoemaker, living in Carroll county; Maria, Bertha, Necia and Mary, who are yet under the parental roof; and one who has departed this life.

Mr. Lorke, since becoming a naturalized American citizen, has closely studied the questions and issues of the day, and gives stalwart support to the principles of the republican party, which he believes are most conducive to good government. He has held several of the township offices, the duties of which he has discharged with promptness and fidelity. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Lutheran church, contribute to its support, and are actively interested in its work. Mr. Lorke deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, for he started out in business life in America without capital and worked as a farm hand until he had gained a sufficient sum to enable him to purchase a small tract of land. As the years passed his economy and diligence enabled him to increase his holdings, which are now extensive, making him one of the substantial residents of the community, while the progressive methods he follows in his farm work class him with the leading and enterprising agriculturists of Genesee township.

ELLIOTT LEROY GALT.

Elliott LeRoy Galt figures prominently in financial circles as a man of keen business discernment and enterprise, of stalwart purpose and straightforward business methods. He is conducting a banking and mortgage business, with offices in the Galt House block. Sterling numbers him among her native sons, his birth having here occurred on the 11th of October, 1857, his parents being Thomas A. and Catherine (Anthony) Galt, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Reared in the city of his nativity, at the usual age E. LeRoy Galt became a pupil in the public schools and passed through successive grades until he was graduated from the Third ward school in 1873. He afterward continued his studies in Williston Seminary, at Easthampton, Massachusetts, where he was graduated in 1876. Entering the business world, he became an employe of the Keystone Manufacturing Company, with which he con-

tinued for a quarter of a century. Gradually he worked his way upward, and for a number of years was treasurer of the company, after which he became its president, and in that connection successfully managed its interests. The product of the factory was agricultural implements, which were sold in all parts of the world. In this undertaking he prospered and gained the capital that permitted his embarkation in his present line of business. In the summer of 1902 he established his present banking and mortgage loan business, and is now well known in financial circles. He is also quite largely interested in land, owning extensive tracts in Texas. He manifests in all things an aptitude for successful management, and his business methods are such as neither seek nor require disguise. He has also been associated with his father as a promoter of many of the manufacturing interests of Sterling, and belongs to that class of representative American men who, while promoting individual success, also contribute in large measure to the public welfare.

Mr. Galt was married, October 1, 1884, to Miss Annie E. Carter, of Worcester, Massachusetts, a daughter of George A. and Adelia (Hosmer) Carter. Unto them were born four children: Thomas A., who is with the Adams & Westlake Manufacturing Company of Chicago; Margaret A., Helen and Donald A., who are pursuing their education in the public schools or in college. The wife and mother died in 1894, and Mr. Galt was married in 1898, his second union being with Miss Mary A. Harvey, a daughter of Samuel and Margaret Harvey. There is one child by this marriage, Robert.

Mr. and Mrs. Galt are members of the First Presbyterian church, and in its work take an active and helpful interest. While business affairs make heavy claim upon his time and attention, Mr. Galt has yet found opportunity for active coöperation in movements and measures for the moral progress of his community. He assisted in organizing the Young Men's Christian Association, was its first president, and filled that office for eight or nine years. Politically he is a republican, and is interested in whatever tends to municipal development. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and he is now serving as president of the board of school trustees, and as a member of the public library board. He resides at No. 902 West Third street, where, in 1884, he built a fine home. A life-long resident of Sterling, no more indisputable proof of an honorable manhood could be given than the fact that his stanchest friends are those who have known him from boyhood and have been familiar with his life history throughout this period.

MICHAEL KANNALY.

Among those who in former years were active factors in the interests of Whiteside county was numbered Michael Kannaly, now deceased. He was born and reared in County Kerry, Ireland, and after coming to the United States worked in the timber regions of Pennsylvania for about two years. He then came westward, settling in Sterling at an early day in the develop-

ment of the city and here in 1857 he opened a grocery store at No. 13 West Third street, and for fifty consecutive years was an active, energetic and honorable merchant of the city. His life history forms an integral chapter in the commercial development of Sterling. There was not a single esoteric phase in his career. His business methods were honorably conducted and he won his success in legitimate lines of trade. Politically he was a lifelong democrat but he never sought nor desired office, preferring to give his undivided attention to the grocery business, in which he won success by reason of his close application.

Mr. Kannaly was married to Miss Annie Broderick and they had four children, a son and three daughters, of whom John and Ellen Kannaly are now living. The parents were members of the Catholic church. The mother died about 1869 and the father afterward married again, his second union being with Catharine Kearney, by whom he had nine children, seven sons and two daughters, of whom seven are yet living: Michael, a resident of Chicago; William, of Sterling; Cornelius, living in Tucson, Arizona; Vincent, of Chicago; Leo, also of Arizona; and Mary and Lucile, both of this city.

Mr. Kannaly survived his second wife, dying in April, 1907, at the age of seventy-nine years. He was one of the prominent, respected and influential men of Sterling, well known throughout the entire county, particularly among the old settlers. His patrons came to him from a radius of over twenty miles and those who gave him their trade in the early days of his business career continued as his customers. He was well informed concerning the development and progress of the county and was much interested in what was accomplished here. He was even tempered, possessed a kindly, genial disposition and was seldom ruffled or out of humor. His sterling traits thus won him a host of friends who always remained true to him while he lived and have cherished his memory since he departed this life.

Of his children, his son John became his successor and still continues in the grocery business. He married Miss Margaret Rourk, a daughter of Timothy and Winifred (Carney) Rourk, by whom he has five children, Edward, John, Charles, Harris and Winifred. The other son, Michael Kannaly, married a Miss Bremner, of Chicago.

THEODORE FRANK.

Theodore Frank, who is engaged in the raising and feeding of stock in connection with general agricultural pursuits, his home being in Montmorency township, was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, February 23, 1858, his parents being James and Fannie (Lengerfelter) Frank, both of whom were natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. In the year 1854 they removed westward to Illinois, journeying a part of the way by stage and driving across the country with private conveyance the remainder of the distance. They located in Sterling and the father worked for three years by



MR. AND MRS. THEODORE FRANK

LIBRARY
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the month at farm labor. He afterward rented land for ten years and during that period his economy and industry enabled him to acquire the capital which permitted his purchase of two hundred acres of land on section 28, Montmorency township, in 1866. As the years passed he prospered and added to his possessions from time to time until at his death he owned seven hundred and twenty acres of valuable land in Whiteside county. His death occurred in March, 1900, and his wife also passed away in this county. In their family were two sons and a daughter, Theodore being the eldest. Jacob Frank is now a resident of Rock Falls, Illinois, while the daughter, Mary, is deceased.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Theodore Frank in his boyhood and youth. When not busy with his text-books as a pupil in the public schools, he was largely engaged in the work of the fields, continuing with his father until he attained his majority, when he began earning his own living by working as a farm hand by the month. Desiring, however, that his labors should more directly benefit himself, he rented land from his father for a year. This was his start and gradually he has made progress in the business world, his success resulting from his close application, unfaltering diligence and good business discernment. He has made judicious investments in property until he is now the owner of over four hundred-acres of land in Montmorency township, together with a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Ellis county, Kansas. Here the fields bring forth good crops and in the autumn golden harvests are garnered. In the pastures, too, are found good grades of stock, which he raises and feeds for the market, and thus both branches of his business are proving good sources of remuneration.

In his early manhood Mr. Frank was married to Miss Laura Armstrong, of Franklin county, Indiana, who was one of the twelve children of James and Hannah Armstrong. Six children graced this marriage: Pearl, now the wife of M. J. Zeigler, living in Whiteside county; Fannie, the wife of Elmer Compton, a resident of Rock Falls; Charles, deceased; Mary, who is a graduate of the Sterling Business College and resides at home; Gertrude, also a graduate of that school; and Ray H., at home.

On the 18th of January, 1895, Mr. Frank was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Eliza Christie, who was the mother of four children by her first marriage, namely: Guy Christie, who is living in Whiteside county; Frances, the wife of Robert Pollock, of this county; Mabel, the wife of Laurence Church; and Myrtle, the wife of Howard Church. All are living in Whiteside county. The mother of these children was born in 1850 and was one of a family of seven children. She supplemented her early education by study in the Oswego (N. Y.) Seminary, from which she was graduated and for seven years she engaged in teaching school. She came to Whiteside county with her parents in 1852 and has lived here continuously since with the exception of the three years spent in college in New York. She is a lady of culture and refinement, who throughout her entire life has had keen appreciation for the value and benefits of education. Her father taught the first school in Jordan township, this county, in 1852 and was closely associated

with the early educational interests. He died, however, in 1864, while his wife, long surviving him, passed away in 1907. Unto the second marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Frank has been born a daughter, Elizabeth, at home.

Mr. Frank is a member of the Mystic Workers and politically is a democrat. He is serving at the present writing, in 1908, as supervisor of Montmorency township, has been school director for fifteen years and was road commissioner for eighteen years. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Baptist church and are interested in its growth and the extension of its influence. Mr. Frank has spent his entire life in Whiteside county and his wife has lived here continuously from the age of two years, so that they are both well known. They are people of many friends and well deserve classification with the pioneer settlers, having for a half century been witnesses of the growth and progress that has been made here as the county has emerged from frontier conditions and taken on all of the evidences of a modern and progressive civilization.

GEORGE H. KUSTES.

George H. Kustes, one of the leading agriculturists of Fulton township, was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on the 9th of March, 1854, his parents being George H. and Sarah (Kane) Kustes, natives of Germany and Ireland, respectively, who emigrated to America prior to their marriage, about the year 1848. The father first crossed the Atlantic to the new world, landing at New Orleans with a capital of but fifty cents. He worked his way up the river to Louisville, Kentucky, where he met and married Miss Sarah Kane, and in the year 1862 they came to Whiteside county, Illinois. In the fall of 1862 Mr. Kustes rented a farm in Ustick township, but in the fall of 1863 purchased a tract of land in Carroll county, Illinois, to which he removed his family, and on which he made his home until about 1888, when he purchased a residence in Fulton and retired from active labor. About the year 1878, however, he had bought a farm in Fulton township, on which George H. Kustes of this review kept bachelor's hall for a time. Though starting out in life in the United States empty-handed, the father won a gratifying measure of prosperity as the years went by, gaining a competence through the exercise of unremitting industry and capable business management in the conduct of his agricultural interests. He passed away December 2, 1891, leaving a wife and six children to mourn his loss, Mrs. Kustes surviving her husband until March 7, 1907, when she, too, was called to her final rest. The record of the children is as follows: George H., of this review; William, of Clyde township; Frank, of Fulton; John, who resides in Thomson, Carroll county; and Hannah and Mary, both of whom live in Fulton.

George H. Kustes supplemented the education which he acquired in the public schools of Carroll county by a winter's term in the Northern Illinois College. When he had attained his majority he started out in life on his own account, hiring out to his father as a farm hand until 1880. For two

years afterward he operated a farm which he rented from his father, and then became the owner of a tract of eighty acres, though he remained on his father's land until the latter's death, in 1891, when he inherited the portion of the estate on which he resided, owning now altogether two hundred acres of rich and productive farming land. He paid thirty dollars an acre for the first land which he bought, but his entire holdings are now easily worth one hundred dollars an acre, owing to the highly cultivated condition of the land and the many improvements he has placed upon it. He has a good residence, all necessary outbuildings, and in fact his place is lacking in none of the equipments of a model farming property of the twentieth century. He is recognized as one of the enterprising and prosperous agriculturists of his community, whose indefatigable industry and untiring energy is the basis of his present success.

On the 20th of February, 1882, Mr. Kustes was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Flannery, of Fulton township, Whiteside county, a daughter of Patrick and Catherine (Coffee) Flannery, natives of Ireland. They came to Whiteside county in quite an early day and reared their family here. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kustes have been born six children: Thomas H., Sarah C., Mary E., William P., Margaret Ann and John E.

Mr. Kustes gives his political allegiance to the democratic party, and in 1900 was elected a member of the board of highway commissioners, of which he is now serving as treasurer. Since his election as school director in 1888 he has also acted as clerk of the school board, discharging his various official duties in a prompt and capable manner. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen, the Mystic Workers and is also a charter member of Patrick Feehan Council, No. 890, Knights of Columbus, and treasurer of that body. He and his family are all members of the Catholic church, and in the community where they reside have won the warm regard and esteem of all with whom they have come in contact.

J. W. FELDMAN.

J. W. Feldman, engaged in farming and in the raising and feeding of stock, resides on section 28, Mount Pleasant township, and the fine improvements on his place of two hundred and thirty acres are largely his work, indicating a life of well directed activity and enterprise. It was upon this farm that his birth occurred November 4, 1866, his parents being John G. and Sophia (Wineman) Feldman, who are now residents of Chicago. The father was born in Helmsheim, Baden, Germany, October 11, 1835, and came to America when eighteen years of age, making his way to Fulton, Illinois. He worked in that vicinity for two years, starting in life not only empty-handed, but also handicapped by a small indebtedness—for he had borrowed the money with which to come to America. He went from Fulton to Clyde township, where he worked by the month as a farm hand for three years, after which he spent a year in the employ of C. P. Emery.

He next rented that farm for a year, subsequent to which time he purchased eighty acres of his present farm. The land had been broken by Eli Upton, one of the old pioneers of the county, but was then owned by Mr. Jackson. He further developed and improved it and erected a house and the outbuildings that furnished shelter for grain and stock. After some time John G. Feldman purchased forty acres to the north and two hundred and fourteen acres in Union Grove township, which he later sold. He also purchased eighty acres more adjoining the homestead; one hundred and ninety-three acres of the Embry farm; eighty acres of the Jackson farm; and eighty acres of the Cramer farm. He has since sold some of this but still owns over three hundred acres in Mount Pleasant township. In his farming operations he has been very successful and in his later years, with large financial resources at his command, he has traveled extensively, spending much of the year 1907 in California, although he and his wife are now living in Chicago. Mrs. Feldman is also a native of Germany, having been born in Baden, February 2, 1845. She became a resident of Putnam county, Ohio, when fourteen years of age and there worked by the month for two or three years, after which she came to Whiteside county, with the Marshall family, with whom she made her home up to the time of her marriage.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Feldman were born seven children: J. W., whose name introduces this record; Ina, the wife of F. Hahn, of West Chicago; Bertha, the wife of E. N. Hamm, of Los Angeles, California; Carl, who is living in San Jose, California; Frank, a resident of Sterling; John, who resides on a farm in Mount Pleasant township; and Artemus, a plumber of Morrison.

In taking up the personal history of J. W. Feldman we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in this locality, having spent his entire life in Mount Pleasant township with the exception of six years. For four years he was engaged in the meat business at Aurora, Illinois, at Morrison and at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. With that exception he has always devoted his attention to general farming and stock-raising and is recognized as an excellent judge of stock, being seldom, if ever, mistaken as to the value of a farm animal. In his pastures are found good grades of stock, while the fields indicate his careful supervision and promise golden harvests.

On the 6th of March, 1888, Mr. Feldman was united in marriage to Miss Minnie E. Thomas, who was born in Mount Pleasant township, September 20, 1869, a daughter of G. W. Thomas, one of the early residents of Whiteside county. Mr. and Mrs. Feldman have three children, all of whom were born in Union Grove township: Alice, James and Joseph, all now in high school. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mrs. Feldman holds membership.

Socially Mr. Feldman is identified with the Masons of Morrison and both he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. He is serving on the board of directors of the high school and is a public-spirited man, interested in progressive education and in all matters pertaining to the welfare and upbuilding of his community. He has always kept

in touch with the trend of modern thought and in his life work has embodied the spirit of progressive agriculture and in his business affairs has displayed sound judgment. There have been many people in the world who have held the idea that farming was an easy matter and that any one could follow that pursuit; that all necessary to be done was to plow the land and plant the seed. The erroneousness of such an idea has been proved in many an experiment. It requires as sound judgment, as clear discrimination and as marked enterprise to win prosperity in the development of the fields as in any industrial or commercial pursuit and it is because of his possession of these requisite qualities that Mr. Feldman has gained a place among the substantial farmers of Mount Pleasant township.

HIRAM SHERWELL HAWK.

Hiram Sherwell Hawk, a retired farmer, who for many years was closely associated with the agricultural development of the community, still derives the greater part of his income from his valuable landed interests in Newton township, is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Westmoreland county, April 28, 1850. His father, Daniel F. Hawk, also a native of that county, was of German descent. The family, however, was established in America in colonial days and was represented in the patriot army in the Revolutionary war. Daniel F. Hawk was a distiller by trade and followed that pursuit in early life, but eventually turned his attention to farming. The year 1857 witnessed his arrival in Illinois and during the succeeding year he lived in Rock Island county, coming to Whiteside county in March, 1858, at which time he settled in Newton township, where he purchased a farm that is now owned by his son-in-law, Francis M. Thomas. Upon that place he continued in the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, carefully and successfully cultivating his farm until his death, which occurred in February, 1877, when he was seventy-six years of age. In early manhood he wedded Harriet L. Martin, who was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was of German-Irish descent. Her father was George W. Martin, who served as a soldier of the war of 1812 and was captain of the Home Guards. He followed farming and both he and his wife died in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Martin was a member of the Presbyterian church. Their daughter Harriet became the wife of Daniel F. Hawk, and long surviving him, died in 1899, at the age of seventy-six years. They were members of the Presbyterian church and their lives were in harmony with their professions. They enjoyed the warm regard of friends and neighbors and Mr. Hawk was recognized as a man of sterling worth, although retiring in disposition. He was strong in his convictions of right and wrong and never faltered in a course which his judgment and conscience sanctioned. His political views were in harmony with the principles of the democracy and in early life he served for several years as sheriff while living in Pennsylvania.

Hiram S. Hawk was the fifth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, and was reared upon the home farm, being eight years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal westward from Pennsylvania to Whiteside county. He attended the country schools and throughout his business life followed farming, early being trained to the work of the fields, while assisting in the development of the home farm during vacation periods. He resided upon a farm in Newton township from his boyhood until 1904, when he retired from active business life, removing to Morrison, where he now resides. Here he owns two hundred and eleven acres of land on sections 23 and 24, Newton township, and the property returns him a good annual income. While personally engaged in the conduct of the farm he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathered rich and abundant harvests as a reward for his labor.

On the 3d of October, 1877, Mr. Hawk was married to Miss Clara A. McCall, a daughter of John B. and Elizabeth (Marshall) McCall, and a native of Rock Island county, Illinois, born July 8, 1852. Her father came to this state from Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in the early '50s and settled in Rock Island county, whence he removed to Whiteside county in 1867, taking up his abode on a farm in Newton township. Both he and his wife are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hawk have been born six children: Hugh M., who was born December 6, 1878, and wedded to Maud Miller, is on the old homestead farm; Lorena E., who was born July 24, 1880, is the wife of Charles Shearer, a farmer of Garden Plain township, by whom she has one child, Hertha Isola; Maude Isola, who was born July 23, 1882, and is at home; John Henry, who was born in August, 1884, and is on the homestead farm; Annie Augusta, who was born June 15, 1891, and is attending school; and Ross Sherwell, who was born February 13, 1895, and died April 17, 1905, at the age of ten years. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and are much interested in its work, while to its support they contribute generously. Mr. Hawk is now serving as one of the elders of the church and for twenty years was a trustee of the church at Newton. Fraternally he is connected with the Mystic Workers and politically is a republican. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm and stalwart friend and for twenty-four years he served as a school director in Newton township. He now lives in a comfortable home in Morrison, enjoying well earned rest, and the esteem and good will of his fellow-citizens is freely accorded him.

THOMAS McCORMICK.

On the 1st day of January, 1908, Thomas McCormick reached the eighty-first milestone on life's journey and is respected as one of the representative and worthy citizens of Sterling, where he is now living in retirement from business. He was born in Newcastle West, in County Limerick, Ireland, January 1, 1827, and was one of a family of eight children, whose parents

were James and Ellen (Mackasey) McCormick, both of whom were natives of Ireland, as were their respective parents. The father followed the occupation of farming in order to provide for his family and, attracted by the favorable reports which he heard concerning America and its opportunities, he sailed for the United States, settling in Wyoming county, New York. He died, however, after a brief period, passing away when sixty-two years of age. His wife died almost at the same time and they were buried on the same day. They held membership in the Catholic church. Of their family of seven sons and one daughter only two are now living: Thomas and William, the latter a resident of Deer Grove, Illinois.

Thomas McCormick spent the days of his boyhood and youth on the Emerald isle, being reared partly on a farm. He acquired a good public-school education and then took up the study of civil engineering. He came to America in 1847, when a young man of twenty years, settling first at Elmira, New York, where he was employed as a foreman on the New York & Erie Railroad. While in the east he also taught school in Montrose, Pennsylvania, and in 1854 he arrived in Sterling, Illinois, being employed there as foreman on the construction of the Northwestern Railroad, the first trains being run over that road the following year. Turning his attention to agricultural pursuits, Mr. McCormick purchased a farm of eighty acres in Hahnman township, on which he lived for a number of years, after which he removed to Hume township. There he purchased eighty acres of land and subsequently bought another tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which he still owns, his landed possessions in Hume township aggregating two hundred and forty acres. Year after year he carried on the work of the farm, bringing his fields into a high state of fertility and annually gathering and marketing good crops. Year after year he also saved something from his earnings until with a considerable competence he removed to Sterling, in 1894, there to enjoy the fruits of his former toil.

In 1851 Mr. McCormick was married to Miss Catharine Murphy, a daughter of Morris and Catharine (Harnet) Murphy. Twelve children were born of that marriage, of whom nine are yet living. James, the eldest, a farmer of Harmon township, married Margaret Long and they have the following children: Edward, Mary, Ella, Agnes, Annie, Emma, William, Florence and Cecil. Morris, a resident farmer of Hahnman township, wedded Maria Higgins and has three children: John, Catharine and Morris. John, living in Sterling, married Catharine Doyle and they have two children: Ralph and Catharine. Timothy, whose home is in Hume township, wedded Mary Doyle and they have three children: John, James and Paul. Ellen is the wife of Richard Long, of Harmon township, and has a son and three daughters: Thomas, Mary, Catharine and Helen. Mary, the next member of the father's family, lives upon the home farm. Margaret is the wife of John Burke and they have one son, Thomas. William wedded Mary Gagin and lives in Hume township. Hannah, the youngest of the family, is living with her sister Mary on the old homestead. The wife and mother, Mrs. Catharine A. McCormick, died December 2, 1899, at the age of sixty-five years.

On the 16th of June, 1905, Mr. McCormick married Mrs. Catharine Betts, the widow of Alexander P. Betts and a daughter of William and Catharine (McGowan) Fitzsimmons. By her former marriage Mrs. McCormick had seven children, namely: Emma, the wife of Frank Wolf, a resident of Rockford, Illinois, by whom she has three children, Edna, Mildred and Francis; William Henry, who lives in Chicago and married Evaline Murphy, by whom he has a daughter, Etha; Nettie, the wife of Roy Roberts, of Rockford, Illinois, and the mother of one son, Richard; Elsie, the wife of William Meyer, of Rockford, and the mother of three children, Charles William and Miriam; Frank, who is a railroad engineer in California; Catharine, the wife of William O'Neil, of Walnut, Illinois, by whom she has one son, Vernon; and Eugenie, the wife of Peter McCabe, of Rockford.

Mr. and Mrs. McCormick are members of the Catholic church and he belongs to the Knights of Columbus. Politically he was a democrat for many years but now votes with the republican party, for he believes its platform contains the best elements of good government. Coming to America when a young man of twenty years, he has improved the advantages which this land of opportunity affords and by his close application and well directed labor he has gained a comfortable competence, winning also the regard of many friends by reason of his well spent life and his recognition of the rights of others.

JOSEPH W. FLETCHER.

Nature seems to have intended that man should enjoy a season of rest in the evening of life. In early manhood he is full of energy, ambition and determination; in middle life his labors are guided by sound judgment that comes through experience; and thus if he works persistently and wisely he can acquire that capital that will enable him in later years to enjoy merited rest. Such has been the life history of Joseph W. Fletcher, who in former years was closely associated with agricultural interests. He has made his home in Sterling since 1893, and in 1896 erected at No. 405 West Third street an attractive residence, which he now occupies.

Mr. Fletcher was born in Yorkshire, England, March 25, 1830, his parents being Joseph and Nannie (Taylor) Fletcher, also natives of that country. The father was a son of William Fletcher, a farmer of England, who died there at an advanced age. His family numbered four children. The maternal grandfather of our subject was John Taylor, also a farmer of England, and his wife bore the maiden name of Nancy Thompson. It was in 1855 that the father brought his family to America and first located in Mason county, Illinois. In 1873 he removed to Champaign county, where he died in 1886 at the age of eighty-six years. His wife survived him until 1890 and was eighty-eight years of age at the time of her demise. In religious faith they were Methodists and they commanded the good will and

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trust of all with whom they came in contact. Of their seven children who reached years of maturity four are now living, namely: William, a resident of Rantoul, Illinois; Joseph W., of this review; Mary, the wife of Robert Pierson, also of Rantoul; and Jane, the wife of B. F. Yates, of Rantoul.

In his native land Joseph W. Fletcher was reared and is entirely a self-educated as well as a self-made man. At the age of twelve years he began earning his own living by working as a farm hand for one dollar and a half per month. He was a young man of twenty-five years when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States and for about a year worked as a farm hand in Mason county, Illinois, after which he assisted his father in the development of a new farm. His first purchase of land consisted of eighty acres, which he bought of Patrick Campbell, and he subsequently became the owner of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Mason county, upon which he resided until the spring of 1873, when he removed to Champaign county. There he again carried on general agricultural pursuits, meeting with gratifying success, until 1886, when he located in the city of Champaign, making his home there for seven years. Considering his capital sufficient to justify his retirement from active business life, he took up his abode in Sterling in 1893, and here he has since resided.

Mr. Fletcher has had a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey in his estimable wife, whom he wedded on the 3d of March, 1859. In her maidenhood she was Miss Alice Abbott, a daughter of Henry and Ann (Keen) Abbott, who were natives of England, the former reared in Blackburn and the latter in Southport. Her paternal grandparents both died in England at an advanced age. In their family were four sons and five daughters. The maternal grandfather, Mr. Keen, conducted a bakery in England, where both he and his wife passed away. In the year 1840 Henry Abbott and wife came to America, settling first in Cass county, Illinois, but after a short time they removed to Mason county, where Mrs. Fletcher was reared. Her father was a shoemaker in England, but in this country followed agricultural pursuits. He removed to Logan county, Illinois, spending his last days in Lincoln, where he died in 1897, at the age of seventy-nine years. His wife died about 1884, at the age of sixty years. Their children besides Mrs. Fletcher are: William, of Mason City, Illinois; Mrs. Nancy Campbell, of South Dakota; J. B., of Mason City; J. H., of Logan county, Illinois; and Mrs. Mary E. Pegram, of the same county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher were born nine children, three sons and six daughters. Alfred Taylor, the eldest, married Alice Hamm and died leaving three children, Ray, Earl and Lee. George Keen, living upon a farm at Mendon, Missouri, married Grace Thayer, and they have five daughters, Nellie, Fern, Mary, Ellen and Hazel. Matilda Ann is the wife of William Hutchison, of Salisbury, Missouri, and they have two sons, Wilbur and Ralph. Lucy Ellen lives at home. Mary Esther married Albert Hutchinson, of Ashton, Illinois, and died in 1905, leaving nine children living, namely: May, Mabel, Bessie, Dorothy, Bertha, Myrtle, Florence, Albert and Esther. Joseph Henry, a farmer living near Salisbury, Missouri,

married Nellie Hazen and they have two children, Mildred and Hazen. Bessie Alice died in childhood. Rosella is the wife of George Becker, of Sterling, and they have a daughter, Dorothy. Ada May is the wife of Charles Frazer, of Sterling, and they have one child, Alice.

Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has been serving as a class leader for thirty-four years, and in the church work they take an active and helpful interest. His attitude on the temperance question is indicated by the support which he gives to the prohibition party at the polls. He stands for all that is upright in man's relation to his fellowmen and for all that tends to promote the moral progress of the community. While in Mason and Champaign counties he held various local offices, being drainage commissioner in the latter county for ten years. He derives his income from valuable property holdings, having four hundred and eighty acres in Hahnman township and two hundred and forty acres in Montmorency township, together with eight farms in Missouri, embracing about fifteen hundred acres of land, while Mrs. Fletcher has a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Champaign county. As the years passed and he prospered in his undertakings he added to his landed possessions from time to time, thus placing his money in the safest of all investments—real estate. He has been the architect of his own fortunes and has builded wisely and well. Today he is one of the extensive landowners of the county and the methods which he has followed in his business life are such as may well serve as an example for emulation and for the encouragement of others.

CLARK RIDER POWELL.

In the death of Clark Rider Powell, Sterling township and Whiteside county lost one of its worthy and respected citizens. He was engaged in business as a farmer and nurseryman on section 23, Sterling township, and while carefully conducting his private interests yet found time to devote to the public good, and in many ways promoted the work of improvement and progress here. A native of New York, he was born in Saratoga county, on the 12th of September, 1826, his parents being Joseph and Hannah (Bow-erman) Powell, natives of New York. Their family numbered eight children: Jacob, Lydia Ann, Nathaniel, Martha, Eliza, Henry S., Clark R. and Nelson, all of whom are now deceased.

Clark R. Powell, after attending the public schools of his native county, spent four months as a student in an academy at Macedon Center, New York. He remained with his father and assisted him in various ways until twenty-three years of age, when he started out in life on his own account, and the success he achieved was attributable entirely to his own labors and resulted from his indefatigable energy and unabating industry. The west, less thickly settled and therefore furnishing better opportunities, called him, and he answered. In 1849 he arrived in Whiteside county, and from that time forward was closely associated with the agricultural development of this part

of the state. He made his first purchase of land across the boundary line in Lee county, securing one hundred and sixty acres, which he cultivated and improved for a time, and later sold. He then bought thirty acres of land upon which he established a nursery, and for many years he conducted that business on an extensive scale. From the beginning it proved a profitable investment, and indirectly the county benefited greatly by his business, as much of the nursery stock was bought of him. He sold nearly all of the evergreen trees found in the county, and today these fine specimens of pine, cedar and hemlock form an attractive feature in the landscape of many a farm and lawn. For a long period he was an active member of the Illinois Horticultural Society, and also of the Rock River Horticultural Society, and few men were better informed concerning the fruit-raising possibilities of the state or knew more concerning the quality of soil necessary for the production of the crops.

On the 17th of October, 1853, Mr. Powell was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Quick, a daughter of Harvey and Judith S. Quick, natives of New York. This marriage was blessed with five children: Albert; Malissa A.; Edwin, who married Lizzie Andreas, and has one child, Tracy; Theron, who married Ora Taylor and has two children, Mary and Ralph; and Martha, deceased.

Mr. Powell was deeply interested in the cause of education, gave his children good opportunities in this direction, and was always a stalwart champion of the public schools. He stood for progress along many lines, and his cooperation could always be counted upon to further progressive public movements. In business affairs he was energetic and thoroughly reliable, and his commercial integrity as well as his enterprise constituted a strong element in his success and gained him the confidence of all who knew him. He died October 17, 1903, after a residence of fifty-four years in the county, and thus passed away one of the pioneer settlers, who was honored and respected by all who knew him, and most of all by those who had known him longest. Mrs. Powell still survives her husband, and yet resides upon the old homestead, where she has lived for more than fifty-four years.

CLARENCE E. WHITE.

The name of White is a familiar one in Sterling and Whiteside county in connection with manufacturing interests, for throughout a long period members of this family have conducted a carriage manufactory in this city, and in this regard Clarence E. White has distinguished himself. He has likewise exerted an immeasurable influence upon the city of his residence as the promoter of many needed and substantial improvements, having served as mayor pro tem during the absence of Mayor Burkholder, and as alderman, during which time he was instrumental in having the streets paved, the sewerage system installed on Broadway, and many other improvements made.

Mr. White is a native of Winchendon, Worcester county, Massachusetts, born October 3, 1853, a son of Daniel and Maria (Poland) White, his an-

cestors having come to this country as passengers on the Mayflower. The paternal grandfather was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his son, Daniel, received a part of the pension due him from the government. Daniel White attended the common schools of his native state, and in early life was apprenticed to a carriage and vehicle manufacturer, thoroughly mastering the business. Following his marriage he took up his abode in Winchendon, Massachusetts, where for many years he was engaged in a successful business as a manufacturer of carriages. While a resident of the old Bay state he was a member of the Massachusetts State Guards, and also served as selectman of Winchendon. In 1866, with his wife and two children, he came to Sterling, Illinois, where he established a wagon and carriage manufactory, conducting the same for two years, after which he purchased a section of land in Lee county, this state, and for two years was there engaged in agricultural pursuits. At the end of that time he returned once more to Sterling and resumed business as a carriage manufacturer, which he continued to follow up to the time of his death, which occurred June 3, 1876. His wife survived him for many years, passing away in May, 1892. Both were consistent members of the Methodist church, and Mr. White was a republican in politics. Their family numbered four children: Elsie E., the wife of George P. Ross, of Harmon township, Lee county; Hiram L., who wedded Esther O. Barber, and passed away in Summerville, Massachusetts, January 15, 1899, at the age of fifty-six years; Clarence E., of this review; and Flora, the wife of W. F. Mangan, of Sterling.

Clarence E. White, whose name introduces this record, began his education in the schools of his native state, completing his studies in the public and select schools of Sterling after the removal of the family to this city. At the age of eighteen years he entered his father's manufacturing establishment, wherein he mastered all the details of the trade. At the age of twenty-one he became his father's partner in business, and at the death of the latter assumed full control of the concern, which he has since carried on with good success. He has in his employ a number of workmen, and the output of the factory finds a ready sale on the market. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and this, coupled with his honorable methods, have brought to the concern a large degree of success. Mr. White also gives considerable attention to the real-estate business, owning a number of houses in the city and two farms of one hundred and sixty acres each in Comanche county, Kansas.

While his extensive business interests claim much of his time and attention, in the field of politics Mr. White has also won distinction. As a staunch supporter of the republican party, he was elected in 1890 on that ticket to represent the First ward of the city as alderman, in which capacity he served for eight years. During his incumbency in that office he was instrumental in having a number of important measures adopted by the city council, the most important among these being the paving of the streets and the laying of the sewer on Broadway. He also acted as chairman of the committees on printing, bridges, electric light, fire and water, and was a member of the street and alley committee for six years. Several times when the

mayor of the city has been absent, Mr. White has acted as mayor pro tem., and on one occasion during his incumbency as the chief executive of the city he was instrumental in having arc lights installed and the free bridge lighted with incandescent lights. Thus it will be seen that he is a man of progressive spirit, ever ready to suggest and push forward to completion any measure that he deems will prove of benefit to the general public.

On the 4th of May, 1876, occurred the marriage of Mr. White and Miss Anna S. Abendroth, who was born in Berlin, Germany, a daughter of John and Sophia L. (Pipper) Abendroth, the former a native of Prussia, and the latter of Austria. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. White was Johannes Abendroth, a native of Prussia and a shepherd by occupation. Both he and his wife died during an epidemic of cholera, when they were well advanced in years. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. White were natives of Austria, and the grandfather held an official position under the king. The parents of Mrs. White came to America when she was a maiden of thirteen years. The family home was established in Monroe, Wisconsin, where the daughter grew to womanhood, she being one of a family of four sons and two daughters, of whom three are now living, her two brothers being: August, of Janesville, Wisconsin; and Ewald, of Elgin, Illinois. The wife and mother died in 1870, and the father was again married, his second union being with Emma Krueger, who died five years later, subsequent to which time he was again married.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. White has been blessed with three children, one son and two daughters, but the son, Datus E., died of typhoid fever at the age of twelve years. The daughters are: Lottie S., the wife of Amos L. Rutt, who resides in Dayton, Texas, where he is connected with a large lumber firm; and Elsie M., who is a high school student in Sterling.

Mr. White is a member of the First Methodist church, and his wife is connected with the Christian Scientists. He is a charter member of Sterling Garrison, No. 83, Knights of the Globe, while Mrs. White is chief justice of Betsey Ross Garrison, Eminent Ladies Knights of the Globe. Few men are more prominent or more widely known in industrial circles in the enterprising city of Sterling than Mr. White. He belongs to that class of representative American citizens who promote the general prosperity while advancing individual interests. The family residence is at No. 1103 East Second street, and here his many friends find him to be a genial, social companion.

ALFRED WORTHINGTON.

Alfred Worthington, a representative farmer whose place on section 26, Coloma township, indicates his careful supervision and practical, progressive methods, has spent his entire life here, his birth having occurred September 8, 1846, on the farm which is now his place of residence. His parents were Artemus and Phoebe (Sammis) Worthington. The grandparents were Ar-

temus and Eunice Worthington, who had eight children: Nicholas, Artemus, Albert B., Arthur Y., Caroline, Clarissa, Elizabeth and Louise.

The father of our subject was a native of Colchester, Connecticut, and was a schoolmate and student at law with Senator Trumbull. Thinking to enjoy improved business opportunities in the middle west, he came to Sterling, Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1838. The city of Sterling was then called Harrisburg, and was a town of comparatively little industrial or commercial importance, containing only eleven log cabins. The next summer Mr. Worthington removed to the south side of the river, having secured a claim in Coloma township. In 1847 he was chosen the first postmaster at Rock Falls, and in 1849 he was again appointed to that office, which he filled continuously until 1855. He passed away August 1, 1855, at the comparatively early age of forty-five years, but his widow, Mrs. Phoebe Worthington, is still living at the advanced age of ninety-six years, and is living with her son on the old homestead.

At the time the parents arrived in this county and settled in Coloma township there were only two houses on their side of the river. The first Worthington home was built of hardwood walnut clapboards, while the window sash and doors were made of butternut wood. The first schoolhouse in Coloma township, where Alfred Worthington pursued his studies, has but recently been torn down. The only means of crossing the Rock river was in "dugouts"—little boats of rude construction. The father laid out the first state road, extending from Peru to Lanark, a distance of ninety miles. It frequently lay across swamps, and there was not a bush or sign of habitation within twenty miles. He was one of the noble pioneers who, by his energy and interest in public affairs, helped to lay the foundation for better days for those who followed after him.

Following her husband's demise, Mrs. Worthington spent a year at the old home in Huntington, Long Island, where she met an old colored servant whom she had left there over twenty years before. After her visit in the east she returned to the old home in Coloma township, where she has resided continuously since. In her family were six children, of whom three are still living: Alfred, Mrs. Alice V. Shirley and Robert E. Isabella, the eldest, born in 1839, was married in 1858 to E. B. Trowe, a resident of Rock Falls, where her death occurred in 1896. Robert died in infancy in 1845. Alice, born in 1849, married S. T. Shirley, who had been a student at Hillsdale, Michigan, and was a school teacher and temperance worker. Robert Emmett married Minnie Henshaw, and still resides in Sterling.

Alfred Worthington, reared upon the old homestead, has followed farming throughout his entire life. He pursued his education in the public schools, and was early trained to the work of the fields, for it was necessary for him to aid in carrying on the home farm. On attaining his majority he chose farming as a life work, and has always continued a representative of the agricultural interests of Whiteside county.

Mr. Worthington was married March 3, 1873, to Miss Martha Wright, a daughter of Hugh and Mary (Mehaffey) Wright, of Scotch-Irish descent. They both emigrated to Hamilton, Canada, and about 1882 settled in White-

side county, Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Worthington were born seven children: Mabel; Olive M., who was for six years a teacher in the schools of Rock Falls, and is now the wife of G. A. Stoltz, an attorney at law living in Peoria, Illinois; Artemus Ward, who was killed in a railroad accident June 25, 1907, at the age of twenty-five years; Edgar S., who is claim agent for the Lake Shore Railroad Company at Toledo, Ohio; Leroy E.; Lou; and Alice Phoebe.

Mr. Worthington votes with the republican party and is a staunch advocate of its principles and policy, taking an active and helpful interest in politics. He has served as town and county commissioner and also as road commissioner. He is a public-spirited man, generous and kindly in action and reliable in his business affairs, and is popular with all who know him.

PAUL FRASER BOYD.

Paul Fraser Boyd, junior partner of the firm of J. H. Snyder & Company, druggists of Morrison, has a well appointed establishment and a liberal patronage. He was born in Morrison, November 8, 1874, and is a son of Peter and Elizabeth (Fraser) Boyd. The mother was born at Pictou, Nova Scotia, in 1851. and was a daughter of William and Christina Fraser, who came to Illinois at an early day, first settling in Carroll county, where Mr. Fraser remained until 1870. He then located in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, where he took up the work of farming and for many years successfully engaged in the tilling of the soil, planting the seed which in due course of time reached fruition in bounteous harvests. Year after year he added to his capital and when he had acquired a sufficient income he retired from business life and removed to Morrison about 1885. There his remaining days were passed, his death occurring in 1902, when he had reached the age of eighty-six years. His wife still survives him and is now living in Morrison with her son, Thomas H. Fraser, at the very advanced age of ninety-two years.

At the usual age Paul Fraser Boyd became a student in the public schools and passed through grade after grade until he had completed the high-school course at Morrison and was graduated with the class of 1893. He afterward attended the Northwestern University as a student in the pharmaceutical department and was graduated therefrom in 1897. Previous to entering college, however, he had some practical experience in this line, having clerked for the firm of J. H. Snyder & Company, druggists. Following his graduation he was prescription clerk for one year in Chicago and then returned to Morrison, where he again clerked for Mr. Snyder until January, 1907, when he bought a half interest in the drug store of J. H. Snyder & Company, and is now junior partner of the firm. They carry a large and well selected line of drugs and sundry goods and their store is neat in its appointments and attractive in its arrangement. The business methods, too, are such as win a growing patronage and Mr. Boyd is now meeting with success in his undertakings.

On the 16th of November, 1904, occurred the marriage of Paul Fraser Boyd and Miss Gertrude Louise Bull, a daughter of Wilson and Eva Bull. She was born in Union Grove township in 1884, her father there following the occupation of farming. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bull are still living in that township. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd are members of the Presbyterian church and are highly esteemed socially, the hospitality of their home being greatly enjoyed by their many friends. Mr. Boyd is a Mason and is also connected with the Odd Fellows, while his political preference is given to the republican party. In 1904 he went on a trip to Europe in company with his uncle, John Boyd, and spent several months abroad, during which time he traveled in Germany, Italy, Holland, France, England, Scotland and Ireland. He thereby gained a culture and experience which only travel can bring and added much to his fund of useful knowledge. Although one of the younger members, he is also one of the more enterprising business men of his native city and has gained a creditable position in mercantile circles, his life record winning the favorable commendation of those who know aught of his career.

WILLIAM A. PETTIT.

The gradual acquirement of success manifest in the life of William A. Pettit shows him to be a man of persistency of purpose and well-directed energy. He is today the owner of a valuable farming property of two hundred and twenty acres on section 4, Prophetstown township, and in addition to the cultivation of the fields he is successfully engaged in dairying. The house which he now occupies was the first frame dwelling built on the Dixon and Rock Island stage road and was used at an early date as a tavern. It is one of the old historic landmarks of the county and if voice were given it could unfold many a tale of interest concerning the pioneer times.

Mr. Pettit was born in Saratoga county, New York, in February, 1863, his parents being Seth and Parmelia (Taylor) Pettit, who were natives of the Empire state and in 1865 came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where the father rented a farm for three years. He then purchased a tract of land in Hume township and continued its further development and improvement until 1888, when he retired from agricultural pursuits and removed to Lyons, Iowa, where he made his home until the death of his wife, which occurred in 1896. He still survives and is now residing in Rock Island county. In his family were four children: George, deceased; William A., of this review; Martha J., the wife of Andrew Olson, of Tampico, Illinois; and C. S.

William A. Pettit was only two years of age when brought by his parents to Illinois and not until he was ten years of age did he begin his education as a district-school student. When he was fourteen he started out in life on his own account and has since been dependent upon his own resources. He was variously employed at any work that would yield him an honest living until nineteen years of age, when he went to the home of his grandfather, with whom he remained until the latter's death, living on the same farm



WILLIAM A. PETTIT.

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where he now resides. At the death of his grandfather he purchased the farm of eighty acres and has since cultivated it with growing success. As a result his crops have brought him a good return and he has added to his property from time to time until within its boundaries are now comprised two hundred and twenty acres of rich land on section 4, Prophetstown township. In connection with general farming he is successfully carrying on a dairy business, keeping a number of cows for this purpose. He is also engaged in manufacturing sorghum and cider during the proper seasons of the year.

In politics Mr. Pettit is independent, nor has he ever taken an active part in political work. His aunt, Mrs. Hannah Ann (Taylor) Miller, who is now a widow, is acting as his housekeeper. She is a native of the Empire state, and, coming to Illinois in 1881, has since lived with Mr. Pettit. In his business life he has manifested determination and diligence which have enabled him to carry forward to successful completion what he has undertaken. There have been difficulties and obstacles in his path, but he has resolutely overcome these and is now a substantial agriculturist of Prophetstown township.

JOSEPH FRANCIS UTLEY.

There are men who, by reason of public service, figure prominently in public regard. There are others whose extensive business interests claim attention and admiration; but the man who is long remembered is he whose good qualities of heart and mind endear him to his fellowmen, winning warm friendships and unqualified trust. Such was Mr. Utley, of Sterling, whose well rounded character brought him into close connection with the business, the political and the social interests of his city, and who at all times commanded the trust and warm personal regard of his fellowmen.

He was born in Turin, Lewis county, New York, on the 18th of April, 1851, his parents being Dr. Henry and Caroline (Butler) Utley, who for many years made their home in Whiteside county, and were of that type of American citizens who ever uphold the legal and political status and promote the intellectual and moral progress. It was in the year 1859 that Dr. Utley, making his way westward from the Empire state, took up his abode in Como, where he engaged in the practice of his profession until 1866, and then came, with his family, to Sterling. Here he lived until his death, which occurred July 9, 1906, and was a prominent representative of the professional life of the city.

Joseph Francis Utley spent the first eight years of his life in the Empire state, and then came with his parents to Whiteside county. He was a youth of fifteen at the time of the removal to Sterling, and here he made his home throughout his remaining days. His education, which he had been pursuing in Como, was continued in the public schools here, and he entered business life in connection with the drug trade, joining his brother, H. B. Utley, in the ownership and conduct of a drug store under the firm style of J. F. &

II. B. Utley. He was also the oldest employe in point of service of the International Harvester Company. For thirty-five years he represented the McCormick Harvester Company and the International Harvester Company as general agent, although he entered that employ in the capacity of salesman and collector. His ability and fidelity soon gained recognition in merited promotion, and from that time on he was connected with the original company and its successor, and was regarded as one of its best agents. As he prospered in his undertakings he made judicious investments in real estate and became the owner of a number of valuable pieces of property in Sterling. His business integrity was ever above question, and in the development of trade he employed only such methods as would bear the closest investigation.

On the 18th of October, 1876, Mr. Utley was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Barrett Richards, a daughter of Hon. Daniel and Frances G. (Barrett) Richards, who were natives of the state of New York and early settlers of Whiteside county. The paternal grandfather, Paul Richards, died in the Empire state. The maternal grandfather, Theodore Sedgwick Barrett, a native of New York and a farmer by occupation, came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1853, and remained for a short time in Sterling, after which he removed to a farm at Galt, there dying when about eighty-six years of age. Daniel Richards, becoming one of the early settlers of Whiteside county, engaged in business as a hardware merchant in Sterling, and afterward practiced law for a number of years. He was prominent in official life, and in fact was one of the distinguished citizens of Whiteside county, whose record reflected credit and honor upon the people who honored him. He died at the age of fifty-three years, and is still survived by his widow, who is now seventy-six years of age. Extended mention of them is made on another page of this volume. Their family numbered three daughters: Miss Ella G. Richards; Mrs. Caroline Utley; and Grace F., now the wife of C. E. Windom, of Sterling.

Five children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Utley: Florence Richards, now the deceased wife of Frederick Alpheus Schmoeger; Edward, who died in infancy; Pauline Caroline, who is attending a business college; Mildred Josephine, a student in the Sterling high school; and Theodore Henry, who at the age of nine years is attending the public schools.

Mr. Utley attended the Congregational church, of which his wife is a member, and he was prominent in Masonry, holding membership in Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T.; and the Mystic Shrine. His political allegiance was given the republican party and in its work, growth and success he was deeply and actively interested. He was several times called to represent the second ward in the city council and exercised his official prerogatives in support of many practical and progressive measures. He was also the republican state central committeeman from his district for several terms and had a wide acquaintance among the distinguished political leaders of the state. Governor Deneen offered him a trusteeship of the Watertown hospital for the insane, but private business duties prevented his acceptance.

Perhaps no better estimate of the life, the character and the work of Mr. Utley can be given than in the words of the Sterling Gazette, which at the time of his death wrote: "Frank Utley, as he was known to nearly every man in Whiteside county, was a man of absolute and unswerving honesty, fearless in every act of his life and thoroughly conscientious in every duty. He was outspoken to the verge of harshness at times, but this was due to his innate honesty of purpose which caused him ever to speak his mind fully and clearly and straight to the point. He was a charming conversationalist and those who knew him best felt for him a friendship which is the privilege of only such gentlemanly natures as was his."

JOSHUA SEIDEL.

Sterling's citizenship has a worthy representative in Joshua Seidel, who belongs to that class of retired men formerly active in business affairs but now enjoying well earned rest and the fruits of their former toil. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, October 22, 1845, and of that country his parents, John and Barbara (Zeiser) Seidel, were also natives. The father was a hostler in the king's stables in Germany and later did teaming and staging. America, the land of opportunity, attracted him in the winter of 1853-4, and he crossed the Atlantic to the new world on a sailing vessel, being fifty-six days upon the water. He made his way to Columbus, Ohio, and in the district of that city engaged in farming for seven years. In the fall of 1860 he came to Sterling, Illinois, with his wife and several of his children, taking up his abode upon a farm in Hopkins township, Whiteside county. After renting that land for three years and carefully saving his earnings he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in the same township and resided thereon for a long period. He afterward took up his abode in the city of Sterling, where his remaining days were passed in honorable retirement, his death occurring when he was more than eighty years of age. His wife had passed away a few years before at the age of seventy years. Both belonged to the German Evangelical church and their many friends constituted the proof of their upright lives and many good traits of character. Unto this worthy couple were born fourteen children, twelve of whom reached adult age: Caroline, the wife of J. J. Miller, of Sterling; Frederick, also a resident of this city; Charles, who lives in Maywood, a suburb of Chicago, Illinois; Mena, the wife of Isaac Schultz, of Galt, Illinois; W. C., a minister of Sterling; Joshua, of this review; Dolly, the deceased wife of Christian Schroeder, of Dickinson county, Kansas; Sophia, the wife of Lafayette Reitz and a resident of Pasadena, California; Caleb, also of Pasadena; Mary, the wife of Harvey Ableson, of Fredonia, Kansas; George, who is practicing medicine in Warren, Wisconsin; and Emma, the wife of A. E. Thummel, of Sterling.

Joshua Seidel was a lad of eight years when he came to America with his parents and was a youth of fifteen at the time of his arrival in White-

side county. He lived at home until he had attained his majority, attending the district schools and working on the home farm through the periods of vacation. Thus he gained practical knowledge of agricultural pursuits and was well qualified to take charge of a farm of his own at the time of his marriage, which important event in his life occurred when he was twenty-four years of age. He afterward engaged in farming in Hopkins township for five years and then removed to Dickinson county, Kansas, where he bought two hundred and eighty acres of land, which he cultivated for nineteen years, converting wild prairie into richly improved fields and annually gathering abundant harvests. He then sold out, and returning to Illinois, purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres near Prairieville in Lee county. It continued his place of residence until 1905, when he rented his land and came to Sterling, purchasing a fine home at No. 311 Broadway, where he now lives retired. Throughout his active business career he carried on general agricultural pursuits and his labors brought him merited success.

On the 2d of February, 1870, Mr. Seidel was married to Miss Louisa Lederer, a daughter of Gottlieb and Katharina (Beder) Lederer. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Seidel were born seven children: Katie, who died at the age of six years; Anna, who married Ernest Klosterman, who resides on the farm of Mr. Seidel in Lee county; Lydia, who resides with her sister Anna; Bertha, the wife of John Royer, of Sterling; Jennie, the wife of Lloyd Thummel, a resident farmer of Prairieville, by whom she has two children, Le Roy and Allen; Frank W., who is engaged in farming in partnership with his brother-in-law, Mr. Klosterman; and Pearl, who is with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Seidel are Lutherans in religious faith and his political support was long given to the republican party, but he is now a prohibitionist, supporting the political organization which embodies his views upon the temperance question. He endorses every movement that is calculated to uplift humanity and promulgate principles of truth, righteousness and honorable living. In his business career he made an unassailable reputation for business integrity as well as enterprise and has ever been known as a man of stalwart determination and unflinching loyalty in support of what he believes to be right.

WILLIAM H. HICKS, JR.

William H. Hicks, Jr., a farmer and stock-raiser of Mount Pleasant township, living on section 32, has a farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres well kept and well improved. He was born in Lyndon township, this county, March 9, 1864, and is a son of William H. Hicks, who, still active, is residing at Morrison, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, Mrs. Anna (Richmond) Hicks, died when her son William H. was but two and a half years of age and the father afterward married again, his second union being with Mrs. Amy Seaman, who is still living. William H. Hicks, Jr., was one of three children, of whom one died in infancy. His sister Harriet first married R.

Anson, by whom she had four children, Fred, Ernest, Maud and Harry. She is now the wife of William Marshall, a resident of Oklahoma and to them have been born two children, Earl and Birt. By the father's second marriage was born a son, who died in infancy. Mrs. Amy Seaman by her previous marriage had a daughter, who is now Mrs. W. J. Hardy and resides in Mount Pleasant township.

William H. Hicks, Jr., was reared in the usual manner of farm lads and has spent the greater part of his life upon the farm which is yet his place of residence. He mastered the usual branches taught in the public schools and was trained to the work of the fields under the direction of his father, who believed in giving his children a practical foundation for the duties and responsibilities of later life.

As a companion and helpmate for life's journey William Hicks, Jr., chose Miss Hannah J. Franks, whom he wedded in Dixon, Illinois, on the 10th of February, 1888. She was born in Pennsylvania but was only about a year old when brought to Illinois by her parents, John and Mary (Malone) Franks, who became residents of Bureau county, Illinois, in 1863. After residing there for many years and carrying on general agricultural pursuits, they removed to a farm in Whiteside county about 1883 and the father died in this county in 1898, at the age of sixty-eight years. His wife still survives and is now living in Prophetstown township. Mr. Franks was twice married and had by the two unions eighteen children. Mrs. Hicks spent her girlhood days in Bureau and Whiteside counties and by her marriage has become the mother of four children, who are yet living, and also lost one child in infancy. Those who still survive are: Leonard William, now a resident farmer of Prophetstown township; Adeline Mary, at home; Harry John; and Ruth Irene, who is in school. Mrs. Hicks attends the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Hicks politically is a republican but is not active in the work of the party, as he finds that the successful management of his farm demands all of his time and attention. Within the boundaries of his place are comprised well tilled fields, devoted to the raising of wheat, corn and other cereals. As he plants his crops at seasonable times and displays care in their cultivation, he annually produces a marketable harvest and receives a good financial return for his labor. Year after year he has worked on energetically and is now one of the more successful among the younger farmers of Mount Pleasant township.

REV. EDWIN WEARY.

Rev. Edwin Weary, rector of Grace Episcopal church at Sterling, was born on the island of Jersey, October 13, 1859. His paternal grandparents were William and Mary Weary, the former a native of Bristol, England, who followed merchandising for many years and died on the island of Jersey at an advanced age. Philip Weary, father of our subject, was born on that island, was a sea captain who commanded tea clippers between England and

China. He wedded Ann Clement, also a native of the island of Jersey and a daughter of John Clement, a native of England, who spent most of his life on the island of Jersey. He, too, was a sea captain and died when more than sixty years of age. The death of Philip Weary occurred about 1867, when he was forty years of age and his wife survived him until January, 1899, and died at Greens Pond, Newfoundland, at the age of fifty-three years. Both were Episcopalians in religious faith. Their family of five children numbered three sons and two daughters, of whom three are now living: Herbert, who is a traveling salesman and makes his home in Montreal, Canada; Rev. Edwin, of this review; and Clara, the wife of Rev. David Horner, who has charge of the parish of St. John's at Gaspe, Canada.

The Rev. Edwin Weary was reared on his native island to the age of sixteen years and then went to the home of his uncle, Philip Clement, at Little Bay, Newfoundland, and remained in his employ as bookkeeper for four years, acquiring a thorough business training during that period, his uncle being a large fish merchant there. Subsequently he continued his education in Queen's College and in St. John's Theological College, at St. Johns, Newfoundland, where he prepared for the ministry, being graduated on the 18th of October, 1882. He was ordained at that time and his first charge was at Battle Harbor, Labrador, where he worked among the Eskimos for four years. He next had charge of St. Stephen's church at Greens Pond, Newfoundland, for five years, when he went to Riviere du Loup, in the province of Quebec, Canada, where he continued for seven years.

Crossing the border into the United States he located at Huron, Ohio, where he was located for two and a half years and was then called to St. Stephen's church at East Liverpool, Ohio, where he continued for seven years and four months. On the 27th of April, 1905, he accepted a call from Grace church at Sterling, where he has since remained. This church was organized about 1860 and the present building was erected that year by John S. Miller, the present president of the First National Bank. It was enlarged, however, in 1906. On the completion of the church it was turned over to Bishop McLaren. The parish numbers fifty-one families, and the fine parish house was erected in 1902. The church is located at the corner of First avenue and Fourth streets and has a fine set of chimes presented by Mrs. J. Frank Wahl and Mrs. William F. Lipp, daughter of Mrs. James S. Greenough. The first Episcopal minister to visit this community officiated at a funeral at Como. Services for the congregation were first held in Wallace Hall and the rector was Rev. Mr. Thayer. Under the ministration of the Rev. Mr. Weary the church is doing good work, holding regular services and is well organized in all of its departments.

On the 5th of August, 1889, Rev. Weary was married to Miss Alice J. Hutchins, a daughter of Philip and Jane Hutchins. He had previously been married to Miss Elizabeth Reed, who was a daughter of Francis and Edith (Dix) Reed, and died fifteen months after her marriage, leaving a daughter, Clara. Unto the second marriage eight children have been born, four sons and four daughters, Clement, Stella, Ericka, Doris, Gerald, Teddy, Marguerite and Philip.

The family residence is at No. 907 Second street and its attractive hospitality is greatly enjoyed by many friends. Rev. Weary affiliates with Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; and is prelate of Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T. He is also chaplain of the Actors' Church Alliance and is a member of the Maccabees. Since the completion of his college course in 1882 he has continuously devoted his life to the ministry and his labors have not been denied the rich harvest nor the aftermath.

RAYMOND A. REYNOLDS.

Raymond A. Reynolds is senior partner of the firm of Reynolds & Smith, leading merchants of Morrison, where they deal in furniture, sewing machines, rugs and pictures. They also conduct a picture framing and undertaking business and their store is supplied with a large and carefully selected line of goods open for display in the Masonic block. The senior partner is one of Whiteside county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Mount Pleasant township in 1863. His parents were Chauncey W. and Alethea (Dean) Reynolds, upon whose farm his boyhood days were spent, his time being divided between the acquirement of an education and the work of the fields. After pursuing his preliminary course in the district schools he pursued a course in Fulton College to acquaint him with the methods of commercial and banking business. He afterward worked on the farm until 1888, when he located in Sterling and was there engaged in the furniture business for a year. In 1889 he came to Morrison and established a furniture store, which he conducted alone for three years. In January, 1893, he formed a partnership with Wellington L. Smith under the firm style of Reynolds & Smith and they have since been together, covering a period of fifteen years. They have a large and carefully selected line of furniture, rugs, pictures, picture frames and sewing machines, and in 1895 they further extended the scope of their activities by establishing an undertaking department. Mr. Reynolds attended the Barnes School of Embalming in Chicago in the spring of 1899 and then took an examination before the state board of health, being given a license as an embalmer in 1899. The business methods of the house are such as insure to it a continued patronage and win for the proprietors the favorable regard and trust of their fellowmen.

On the 2d of March, 1886, Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Miss Emeline C. Knox; who was born in Mount Pleasant township in 1866, a daughter of Archibald and Minerva Knox, early settlers of the county and well known citizens. There are three children in the Reynolds family: Raymond A., born April 24, 1887; Lola M., who was born May 29, 1888, was graduated from the Morrison high school with the class of 1908; Freda Ethel, born July 23, 1890, is now a student in the Morrison high school. Mr. Reynolds is popular in various fraternal organizations. He belongs to the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias and is also a member

of the State Undertakers' Association. Aside from his business, which is constantly growing in volume and importance, he owns a good residence property here. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his county. His interests are thoroughly identified with those of Morrison and at all times he is ready to lend his aid and cooperation to any movement intended to benefit this section of the country or promote the welfare and upbuilding of his adopted city.

C. D. JOHNSON.

C. D. Johnson, who is engaged in general farming on a tract of land of eighty-seven acres which constitutes a part of the old Johnson homestead, is a native of Will county, Illinois, born May 27, 1852. His parents, J. S. and B. C. (Gault) Johnson, were both natives of Vermont and, coming to Whiteside county at an early day, the father built a log cabin, in which the family lived in true pioneer style for a number of years, sharing in the hardships and privations incident to the settlement of the frontier. While living on this farm he one day ate a pear and taking one of the seeds of the fruit he planted it and in course of time the seed sprouted. Year by year the tree grew and is still bearing fruit, it being now on the farm of Mallory S. Hill. After living for some time in Whiteside county, J. S. Johnson sold his property here and removed to Will county, where he lived for several years. He then returned to this county and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 31, Prophetstown township. His time and energies were then devoted to its cultivation and improvement up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1876. In the meantime he prospered in his undertakings and added to his original holdings until at his demise he left an estate of four hundred and eleven acres. His wife, long surviving him, died in 1900, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Their children, six in number, were: H. L., who makes his home in Prophetstown; Carlos E., deceased; Thomas F., who makes his home in Kansas; Frank V., who resides in Rock Falls, this state; Ellen M., the wife of Wallace Burroughs, a resident of Nebraska; and Clemont D.

The experiences which came to C. D. Johnson, the other member of the family, during his minority were those which usually fall to the lot of the farmer boy. When about six years of age he entered school and mastered the various branches of English learning. His training in the work of the farm was not meager and he soon became familiar with the best methods of producing and caring for the crops. He rendered his father such assistance as his age and strength permitted until he attained his majority, when he rented the old homestead farm for three years. He then bought eighty-seven acres of the place and has lived on it continuously since, working the farm in accordance with advanced methods of agriculture and producing good results in large marketable crops.



MR. AND MRS C. D. JOHNSON.

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In 1874 Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Fanny A. Booth, who was born in Whiteside county in 1856, a daughter of W. M. and Adaliza (Herd) Booth, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Vermont. They came to Whiteside county in the early '30s and lived in a log house in Portland township for several years. The father aided in laying broad and deep the foundation for the later development of the country and deserves all the credit which is due the early pioneers who extended the frontier by making the first settlements and reclaiming the wild region for the uses of civilization. Mrs. Johnson was one of a family of six children. Her mother died in 1894 and the father passed away in 1900, the county thus losing two of its best known and most worthy pioneer settlers. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have been born three children: Bessie M., now the wife of C. C. Wildman, a resident farmer of Prophetstown township; Fred W., who is living in the same township; and Ray C., at home.

The parents are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Johnson politically is a republican. He has served as school director for fifteen years, but has never sought political preferment. Almost his entire life has been passed in this county and his memory bears the impress of many early events which have shaped its history and molded its destiny in large measure.

CAPTAIN ANDREW H. HERSHEY.

Captain Andrew H. Hershey, while now giving his time and attention to agricultural interests, has been a prominent figure in the political history of Sterling and Whiteside county, filling at different times the offices of mayor, alderman, county treasurer and deputy revenue collector. His public service at all times has been characterized by the utmost fidelity to duty and by progressive ideas in relation to public affairs, and the consensus of opinion accords him prominence in Whiteside county.

The life record of Captain Hershey began in Marietta, Pennsylvania, January 3, 1840. He was the only child of Dr. Andrew and Fanny (Nase) Hershey, also natives of the Keystone state. The family was established there at an early day, for the grandfather, Andrew Hershey, was also born in Pennsylvania, where he followed the occupation of farming. He married a Miss Kauffman, and both lived to an advanced age. The Hershey family comes originally from Swiss ancestry. There were three brothers, natives of Switzerland, who crossed the Atlantic and settled in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and from one of these Andrew H. Hershey of this review is descended. His maternal grandfather was Samuel Nase, who was likewise born in Pennsylvania and made farming his life work. In 1851 he came to Illinois and spent his last days in the home of his daughter, Mrs. Macher, his death occurring in 1863, when he was seventy years of age. His wife, Mrs. Catharine (Wise) Nase, died in middle life.

Dr. Hershey devoted his life to the practice of medicine and surgery. He was a graduate of the Franklin Medical College of Philadelphia and

located for practice in Marietta, Pennsylvania, where he died in 1839, at the age of thirty-eight years. His widow afterward married William Machen, and in 1851 they removed to Savanna, Illinois, where he followed merchandising. There his death occurred in 1898, when he was more than seventy years of age, while his wife died in 1883, at the age of sixty-six years.

Captain Hershey was only eleven years of age when he came with his mother and step-father to Illinois. He was reared in Savanna and attended the public schools, also spending three winter seasons in Mount Carroll Seminary. He was a young man of twenty-one years, when in September, 1861, he offered his services to the government and joined the boys in blue of Company K, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in defense of the Union. He enlisted as a private and was gradually promoted until at the close of the war he was holding the rank of captain. He was wounded in the head at the battle of Shiloh and he also participated in the battle of Hatchie River, the siege of Vicksburg, the Meridian raid, the Atlanta campaign and the march through the Carolinas and on to Washington, where he participated in the grand review. He was afterward sent with his command to Kansas to quell the troublesome Indians on the frontier and was mustered out in September, 1865.

After the war Captain Hershey returned to Savanna, Illinois, where he engaged in business as a dealer in stock, grain and lumber, while later he turned his attention to general merchandising. In 1873 he entered the internal revenue service as deputy collector and came to Sterling when the office was transferred to this city in the fall of 1877, continuing in the position until 1885, when he resigned. He spent the following winter in California and after his return was elected in the fall of 1886 to the office of county treasurer, in which he served until 1890. The following year he was elected mayor of Sterling and remained as chief executive of the city for two years. He was also alderman for eleven years, representing the fourth ward. Thus again and again he has been called to office and in the discharge of his duties has ever been loyal, efficient and prompt. He has made judicious investment in property and is now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and fifty-three acres lying mostly in Sterling township, the development and improvement of which largely claims his attention at the present time.

On the 25th of March, 1868, Captain Hershey was married to Miss Hattie E. Bowen, a daughter of Luther H. and Elizabeth (Chamberlain) Bowen. The parents were natives of the state of New York. The former was a son of Simon Bowen, a native of Massachusetts and a manufacturer. He was a captain in the State Militia of New York and his wife was Nancy (Waterman) Bowen. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Hershey were Aaron and Elizabeth (Dale) Chamberlain, and the great-grandfather was Colonel William Chamberlain, a colonel of the Revolutionary war. Aaron Chamberlain was a native of Pennsylvania, served in the war of 1812 and was known by the title of colonel. L. H. Bowen, the father of Mrs. Hershey, came to Illinois in 1832 and settled in Galena. He was prominently identified with the early history of the state in its material progress and upbuilding and laid out the town of Savanna in the year 1835. He died there in 1876, in his seventieth

year, while his wife passed away seven years before, at the age of forty-nine years. He was a civil engineer by profession but when he came to the west turned his attention to merchandising and built the first lumber and flour mill in the region in which he took up his abode. Unto him and his wife were born five children, of whom four are yet living: Hattie, now the wife of Captain Hershey; Jennie F., of San Jose, California; Luther Sherman Bowen, who is living in Savanna, Illinois; and Aaron L. Bowen, of Seattle, Washington.

Captain and Mrs. Hershey became the parents of four children: Andreas, who died at the age of seven years; Frances G., the wife of Jesse Cameron Moore, of Indianapolis, Indiana, by whom she has one daughter, Elizabeth; Marie, who is a teacher in the township high school and lives at home; and Ben, who is attending the Boston School of Technology and is a graduate of Williams College of the class of 1906.

Both Captain and Mrs. Hershey are members of the Episcopal church and he belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; and Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T. He maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his affiliation with Will Robinson Post, No. 264, G. A. R. He also belongs to the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion. He is now a member of the board of directors of the Sterling township high school and is interested in everything that pertains to public progress in political, material, intellectual, social and moral lines. His record as a soldier, as an official and as a business man has been so honorable that he has gained the confidence and good will of all with whom he has had association. He is one whose courtesy is unfailing, whose integrity is above question and whose public service has redounded to the credit and benefit of the city and county.

THEODORE TROUTH.

Theodore Trouth, who is living retired in Sterling, was for some years a representative of commercial interests of the city and prior to that time was connected with agricultural interests in this part of the state. Earnest, persistent toil, however, won for him a handsome competence that now supplies him with many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life without recourse to further labor. He was born in Jordan township, Whiteside county, Illinois, March 1, 1861, and is a son of Engelhardt and Anna Mary (Zolpfinger) Trouth, who were natives of Reinpfalz, Bavaria, Germany. The former was a son of Sundry Trouth, who devoted much of his life to the conduct of a hotel and died in Germany when more than seventy years of age. His wife died at the venerable age of ninety-two years and was remarkably well preserved. Their family numbered three sons and seven daughters. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a farmer and died in Germany in early manhood. His wife passed away soon afterward and their daughter, Anna Mary, was thus left an orphan when four years of age.

Englehardt Trough learned and followed the tailor's trade in Germany and in the spring of 1858 made the voyage to the United States, landing at New York city. There he engaged in tailoring for a little more than a year, when he made his way westward to Illinois, settling at Prairieville. A year later he took up his abode in Jordan township, Whiteside county, where he cultivated a rented farm until 1876, when the capital he had acquired through his labors justified his purchase of a farm of one hundred acres in Montmorency township. Upon that place he carried on general agricultural pursuits and continued to reside until his death, which occurred when he was sixty-five years of age. His wife survived him for some time and passed away at the home of her daughter in Sterling in 1901, at the age of seventy-seven years. Both were consistent and devoted members of the Lutheran church. He was a soldier in Germany in the rebellion of 1848, and on account of being an advocate of liberty was compelled to serve six years longer. He wished to enlist for the second call of volunteers for service in the Civil war in this country but on account of the persuasion of his wife gave up the idea. In their family were three sons and a daughter: Theodore, of this review; August, a resident of Minnesota; Edward, of Perry, Iowa; and Barbara, the widow of John Geoken, and now a resident of Sterling.

Theodore Trough, reared on his father's farm, attended the district schools and worked in the fields until he became familiar with every phase of agricultural life. He lived at home with his father until twenty-two years of age and then started out in life for himself by renting land in Montmorency township. He thus carried on farming for ten years but in the meantime he purchased forty acres from his father and also one hundred and sixty acres in Wright county, Iowa, since which time he has sold both properties. He has bought a farm in Jordan township, comprising two hundred and eight acres of rich and productive land, which he still owns and he likewise has an eighty acre farm in Lee county. From his agricultural holdings, therefore, he derives a good income. For seven years he engaged in business in Sterling as a dealer in agricultural implements, having a store in First avenue at the corner of Second street. At length, however, he traded the business for eighty acres in Lee county in 1904. He owned a good residence at No. 801 Third avenue and occupied it for a number of years but in 1906 he purchased an adjoining residence which is his present dwelling.

On the 30th of December, 1884, Mr. Trough was married to Miss Elizabeth Miller, a daughter of William and Frederika (Wahl) Miller, who were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, her father coming to America in 1852 and her mother in 1854. The latter was a daughter of Mathias and Rosina (Schwartz) Wahl, who came to America with their family of six children in 1854, settling first in Trumbull county, Ohio, where they lived for two years, after which they came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up their abode in Genesee township, where the death of Mrs. Wahl occurred. The grandfather afterward removed to Sterling, where he died when more than eighty years of age. The marriage of William Miller and Frederika Wahl was celebrated at Prairieville, Illinois, in 1858 and they became the parents of two sons and three daughters: William D., who is living on the old homestead

in Montmorency township; Caroline, the wife of Henry Hein, of Rock Falls; Anna, the wife of William Hein, of Dunlap, Iowa; Elizabeth, the wife of Theodore Trout; and Henry Miller, who is living in Perry, Iowa. The father died Oct. 3, 1903, at the age of nearly eighty years, but the mother still survives.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Trough have been born two daughters and a son, Annie Frederika, Florence Elizabeth and Theodore John, but the first named died at the age of three years and twenty-four days. The parents are devoted and faithful members of St. John's Lutheran church and Mr. Trough is serving as one of its elders. Politically he is an earnest republican and has been called to several local offices. He served as tax collector of Montmorency township for three years, was road commissioner five years and has also been school director for several terms. Any movement or measure relating to public welfare receives his endorsement and many times his active cooperation. He is now living retired in Sterling, this course being possible by reason of his carefully directed business interests in former years. He derives a substantial income from valuable property and his life record shows what may be accomplished by determined purpose and close adherence to high ideals in business life.

CHRISTIAN RICK.

When a careful review is made of the nationalities who have contributed to American citizenship and have promoted the civilization of the new world it will be found that great credit is due the German race for its contribution to the upbuilding and progress of this country. Among the sons of the fatherland now living in Whiteside county is numbered Christian Rick, who was born in Germany, May 29, 1847. Long after he had come to America his father, Philip Rick, also crossed the Atlantic, arriving in 1877. He was born in Germany, November 24, 1816, and when he came to Whiteside county he purchased ten acres of land near Coleta, upon which he spent his remaining days, passing away in January, 1902, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Dora Beeler, was born in Germany in 1824. Their children were as follows: John, who was formerly a farmer of Ustick township and is now living retired in Morrison; Jacob, who is living retired in Indianapolis, Indiana; Philip, who makes his home in Williams county, this state; and Mathis, who came to this county with his brother Christian and died here.

Christian Rick spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the country of his nativity and there acquired his education. He was twenty-three years of age when he determined to test the truth of the favorable reports which he heard concerning America. On the 16th of July therefore, having made the long voyage across the Atlantic, he arrived in Sterling, where he continued until Christmas in the employ of George Bristle. He then purchased eighty acres of land in Ustick township and for thirteen years he lived upon a farm on sections 25 and 26, Ustick township, where he made all of the improve-

ments, transforming the place into an excellent property, while the fields were made to bring forth rich returns as a reward for his care and energy. Three years ago he sold that property and bought one hundred and twenty acres on section 35. Here he now makes his home and the place is equipped with modern conveniences and accessories, proclaiming the owner to be a man of progressive spirit and of excellent business capacity. He follows general farming and stock-raising, keeping on hand standard bred cattle and horses.

On the 28th of October, 1875, Mr. Rick was united in marriage to Miss Anna Mary Storz, who was born April 1, 1853, near Schiltach, Germany, her parents being Jacob and Mary (Esleign) Storz, both of whom died in Germany. Unto our subject and his wife have been born eleven children: Lue, born May 19, 1876, died on the 4th of June following; Anna, born August 18, 1877, is the wife of Fred Farwell, a resident of Albany, Illinois, and they have two children, Iva and Howard; Phillip, born January 6, 1880, died on the 16th of July of the same year; William, born September 10, 1881, married Bessie Farwell, and has two children, Edward and Louise, their home being on his father's farm, which he is now operating; Charles, born September 11, 1883, and living on his father's farm in Clyde township, married Nellie Null; Frank, born January 4, 1885, is working by the month as a farm hand; Lewis, born March 4, 1887, and Christie, born August 17, 1890, are at home; Roy, born May 30, 1893, died September 9, 1893; Dora, twin sister of Roy, is at home; and Henry, born August 12, 1895, completes the family.

The parents are consistent and active members of the Mennonite church, and in all the relations of life Mr. Rick is actuated by high and honorable principles. His business methods are ever straightforward, and he has gained success by reason of his untiring diligence and his business integrity. When he came to America he borrowed ninety dollars to assist him in making the voyage, and thus he started out in life in the new world empty-handed. He realized that success is only to be attained by persistent, earnest and unfaltering effort, and in this manner he has gradually worked his way upward until he is now one of the well-to-do citizens of the county, having substantial farm interests, embracing two hundred and fifty-eight acres of land in Clyde and Ustick townships.

JOHN WOLBER.

John Wolber, who follows farming on sections 23 and 24, Clyde township, where he owns two hundred fifty and a half acres of land, has here lived for eleven years, having purchased the property from the Grater estate. He belongs to the citizens of foreign birth who have found opportunity in the new world to advance from a humble financial position to one of affluence. He was born in the southern part of Germany in October, 1849, a son of Jacob and Barbara (Schwink) Wolber, both of whom lived and died in Germany. The father was a dealer in timber and was very successful in his business affairs.

John Wolber, an only child, was reared and educated in the land of his nativity and was associated with his father in the timber business for some time. He served for more than two years in the German army and in the fall of 1875 came to America, making his way direct to Morrison, Illinois, where he had friends. He possessed only about one hundred dollars at the time of his arrival but he had what is more valuable than capital—a resolute spirit, self-reliance and unfaltering purpose. He worked for several years by the month and thus early provided for his own support and laid the foundation for his success, carefully saving his earnings. He bought eighty acres of land near Como, in Hopkins township, and afterward added forty acres, carrying on that farm for a considerable period. Eleven years ago he traded it for his present property on sections 23 and 24, Clyde township, and now has one of the well equipped and well improved farms of the locality. He has added many substantial equipments and accessories to the place, uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work and divides the farm into fields of convenient size by well kept fences. He operates the entire farm and is engaged largely in raising hogs of high grade. This proves a profitable source of income to him and as the years go by he is meeting with the measure of success which eventually crowns persistent, well directed labor.

Mr. Wolber was married in this county to Miss Sarah Obendorf, who was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Phillip and Margaret (Riese) Obendorf, who came to this country and settled in Philadelphia prior to their marriage, which was celebrated in that city. Later they removed to Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where they resided for twelve years, the father conducting business as a shoemaker. Thinking to find better business opportunities in the middle west, he removed from the Keystone state to Illinois and took up his abode in Jordan township, Whiteside county. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death, and also followed shoemaking throughout his active life. His widow afterward married again and with her second husband removed to Genesee township, where her last days were passed. Mrs. Wolber is the youngest of five children, including John, who is making his home with our subject and his wife; Mary the wife of Charles Smith, who formerly lived in Illinois but is now a resident of Missouri; William, who is engaged in the grocery business in Sterling; and Charles, a farmer living near Milledgeville.

Mr. and Mrs. Wolber began their domestic life upon a farm in Hopkins township and as the years passed four children came to bless their home: Frank J., who was born August 13, 1890, in Hopkins township; George A., who was born in that township, August 5, 1892; Ida Mary, born in Clyde township, April 1, 1897; and Lilly May, born December 10, 1902. The family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death and the children are all yet under the parental roof. The family attend the German Lutheran church.

Mr. Wolber exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, but while neglectful of no duty of citizenship he has never been an office seeker. His farm claims his time and ener-

gies and he works diligently and persistently to keep it at its present high standard of development. For eleven years he has here operated more than two hundred and fifty acres of land, and evidence of his untiring industry is seen in the well cultivated fields.

HON. DANIEL RICHARDS.

On the list of Whiteside county's distinguished dead appears the name of Hon. Daniel Richards, a man of national prominence, whose citizenship was of the highest character. He was one to whom was intrusted important public service and over whose record there fell no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. His unbending integrity of character, his fearlessness in the discharge of his duties and his appreciation of the responsibilities which rested upon him were such as to make him a most acceptable incumbent in office and a man whose worth then as now was widely acknowledged.

Daniel Richards was born April 5, 1821, in Orangeville, Wyoming county, New York, his parents being Paul and Lois (Stone) Richards. The father was the first judge of the county court of Wyoming county, a lawyer of distinction and a man of more than ordinary ability. He was not only connected with the interpretation of the laws but also in framing them as a member of the legislature of New York. Unto him and his wife were born a large family, but all are now deceased.

Daniel Richards was provided with liberal educational advantages, which he improved, remaining throughout his life a student of the great political, sociological and economic questions affecting the welfare of the country while at the same time he thoroughly qualified for the duties that devolved upon him in connection with his professional and business career. His views were always so sane, his ideas so tangible and his methods so practical that he was ever recognized as a leader in any community in which he sojourned. At an early day he began following the profession of teaching, to which he devoted his time, energies and thought for many years. He was also engaged in merchandising for a period at Orangeville, New York, and in the conduct of his store brought to bear the same thoroughness and concentration which characterized everything that he did. His advent into Illinois came in the year 1844. He started westward on a visit to the state and spent the entire year traveling mostly on foot, over its broad prairies, gaining knowledge of its conditions and its possibilities. In 1854 he made his second trip to the state and was so pleased with its prospects that the following year he brought his family and established his home in Sterling. Here he entered into partnership with Henry Garrettsee in the hardware business but they had conducted their store for only a brief period when a disastrous fire occurred in 1856 and their stock was destroyed. With characteristic energy, however, they made preparations for continuing their business and were soon established in the Keystone block, where a liberal trade was accorded them in recognition of their straightforward business methods and their earnest desire to please their patrons.



DANIEL RICHARDS

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Mr. Richards was never so busy with private interests that he could not find time nor opportunity for active participation in public affairs and he believed it the duty as well as the privilege of every man to express and uphold his opinions on matters of vital interest. In 1860 he became an active factor in the most memorable presidential campaign in American history and delivered many speeches in support of Abraham Lincoln. He was a man of fine address, presenting clearly and forcibly the points in issue and strong arguments in their support. His ideas were new, original and convincing and many who came to listen to him prompted merely by curiosity or because of opposing views came to see the righteousness of the cause which he espoused. In 1862 he was nominated by the republican party for the position of state senator and was elected by a most flattering majority. Soon after this he disposed of his hardware business and as was characteristic bent every energy to the discharge of his legislative duties, working untiringly for the interest of his constituents and the state at large. His position was never an equivocal one and his stalwart support was always the outcome of his honest belief in the cause which he championed.

At the close of his legislative service Mr. Richards took up the study of law in the office of Perkins & Bass, of Chicago, and after a most critical examination was admitted to the bar. Through the efforts of Hon. E. B. Washburne, late minister to France, he was tendered the position of tax commissioner for the state of Florida by President Andrew Johnson. But his ambitions were not in that direction and he did not care to accept the position but was urged to do so, as it was very desirable that some perfectly loyal and honest man should assume the duties at once. Thus pressed by the urgency of the case, he started at once for Fernandina, Florida, and was made president of the board, a position which he filled until his term of office expired. Judge Richards, as he was always called while in the south, won not only the respect and trust of the citizens of Florida, but also the earnest friendship and love of many prominent men of the state. When Governor Reed was impeached and on trial he sent a special train for Judge Richards to come and defend him, saying, "You are the only man in the state that can save me." Mr. Richards practiced law in Florida during reconstruction times, continuing in the active work of the bar until failing health compelled his retirement. He spent altogether about five years in the south, although each year he visited for about five months with his family in Sterling.

On the 29th of August, 1850, was celebrated the marriage of Daniel Richards and Miss Frances Barrett, a native of Orangeville, Wyoming county, New York, and a daughter of Theodore S. and Caroline (Damon) Barrett, who in 1855 came to Whiteside county. The former was a son of Moses and Betsey (Sedgwick) Barrett, who lived in Madison county, New York. He following farming, making his home for a time near Cazenovia. He died at the age of eighty-four years while his wife also reached an advanced age. They were parents of four children. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Richards was Isaac Damon, also a resident of Madison county, New York, and his wife bore the maiden name of Diadema Tarbox. He reached the very venerable age of ninety years. Their family numbered five children, including

Caroline J. Damon, who in early womanhood became the wife of Theodore S. Barrett. As stated, the parents of Mrs. Richards arrived in Whiteside county in 1857, settling first in Sterling and afterward removing to a farm near Galt. While residing in New York Mr. Barrett had taken a prominent part in public affairs and official life but after his removal to the west lived more in retirement. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Richards, in 1894, at the age of eighty-six years, having long survived his wife, who died in 1860, at the age of fifty-three years. Their family numbered four children, of whom Mrs. Richards is the eldest. Theodore H. Barrett served with distinction during the civil war, commanded a regiment in the last battle of the war and attained the rank of general. He died at his home in Herman Minnesota, but was laid to rest in the Sterling cemetery. Lucia C. died at the age of fifteen years. Lorenzo M., who was born at Orangeville, New York, August 8, 1836, died at the home of his sister Mrs. Richards, May 23, 1895. He was well known in Whiteside county and was uniformly esteemed.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Richards numbered three daughters: Ella G., Mrs. Caroline B. Utley, the widow of J. F. Utley, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume, and Grace Frances, the wife of Charles E. Windom, a furniture dealer and undertaker of Sterling. Mrs. Richards still resides in Sterling, where the esteem in which she is held is indicated by the large number of her friends.

The death of Mr. Richards occurred January 21, 1872. He was justly accorded a place among the prominent and representative citizens of the state, for he belonged to that class of men whose enterprising spirit is used not alone for their own benefit, but for the advancement of general good and the promotion of public progress. His public career was ever above suspicion. The good of the nation he placed above partisanship and the welfare of his constituents before personal aggrandizement. He commanded the respect of his fellow legislators and men prominent in public life, and where he was best known he inspired personal friendships of unusual strength, all having the highest admiration for his good qualities of heart and mind.

REV. E. LEE FLECK.

Rev. E. Lee Fleck, pastor of St. John's English Evangelical Lutheran church in Sterling, was born near Altoona, Pennsylvania, one of the eleven children born unto Conrad and Mary (Crossman) Fleck, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state. The paternal grandparents were Jacob and Ellen Fleck, natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared and followed farming and lived to the ages of seventy and ninety-four years respectively. The maternal grandfather was a farmer and lumberman, who settled in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, and bought a large tract of timber land. Cutting down the trees he rafted the logs down the river to Williamsport and after making extensive sales he went to Williamsport to collect the money due him. He was seen within one mile of his home on the return trip but

never reached there. He was known to have had as much as ten thousand dollars with him at the time and it is supposed that he was murdered for the money. His wife died when a young woman, leaving three children.

Conrad Fleck was a shoemaker by trade and for many years followed that pursuit. He also worked on farms in the summer seasons and took contracts for chopping wood for collieries for making charcoal. He enlisted in the Civil war as a member of Company G, Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and served until the close of hostilities. In one of the skirmishes in which he participated he was severely wounded in the leg, which disabled him for over a year. He took part in a number of important battles and others of lesser importance, and in the engagement of Bolivar Heights he lost the sight of one eye. He was in the advance line on scouting duty most of the time. For a brief period he was in a hospital with smallpox. After the war and when he had regained his health he engaged in building fences for a number of farmers and thereby secured a small tract of land and followed truck farming until he was obliged to retire on account of his age. He spent his entire life near Altoona, Pennsylvania. His wife died February 25, 1895, at the age of sixty-two years, one month and three days, and he passed away January 17, 1908, in his eighty-third year.

His family numbered four sons and seven daughters, of whom six are yet living: Benjamin C., a resident of Indiana, Pennsylvania; Rev. E. Lee, of this review; Bliss L., twin sister of E. Lee, and now the wife of Levi Knott, of Altoona, Pennsylvania; Martha, the wife of Jacob Otto, living near Monticello, Indiana; Irene, the wife of Joseph Tate, of Altoona, Pennsylvania; and Sarah, the wife of Jacob Emery, living near that city.

Rev. E. Lee Fleck was reared on a farm in Sinking Valley, Blair county, Pennsylvania, near Altoona, and attended the district schools. He remained at home until nineteen years of age and worked at farm labor by the month in the neighborhood. When a young man of nineteen, however, he came westward to Illinois and settled at Polo, where he again was employed at farm labor. In the fall of that year he removed to Des Moines, Iowa, and secured employment on the old Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad, now owned by the Pennsylvania system. He acted as brakeman until June, 1876, when he resumed farm work at Clarence, Cedar county, Iowa, and so continued until about the close of the year 1877. In the meantime he had become imbued with a desire to get a better education than he had been able to acquire in early life, realizing its value in the business world. Accordingly he entered the high school at Clarence with a view of preparing himself for teaching but changing his plans in the fall of 1878, he matriculated in the Carthage (Illinois) College, with the intention of preparing for the ministry. He completed the course there in May, 1884, and during that time continued to reside in Clarence, Iowa. He engaged in teaching during three spring terms and worked as a farm hand during the summer seasons for five years in order to earn money to complete his college course. The spirit of self-reliance and enterprise which he thus displayed have been carried with him into his new field of labor and have been salient elements in his success. In the fall of 1884 he matriculated in the theological school in Springfield,

Ohio, known as the Wittenberg Theological Seminary, from which he was graduated in June, 1887.

Immediately afterward Rev. Fleck entered upon his pastoral work at Springfield, Ohio, organizing the third Evangelical Lutheran church of that city and building the present edifice in which the congregation is now worshipping. In this he displayed excellent executive ability; while in the pulpit his words of wisdom and instruction carry with them weight and influence. At the same time he had charge of the Rockway congregation, situated two miles beyond the corporation limits of Springfield and succeeded in lifting a debt for his people, organizing a strong congregation there.

In the meantime Mr. Fleck was married March 7, 1888, to Miss Harriet Olive Hosford, of Hamilton, Illinois. He continued to carry on his work so untiringly and unfalteringly that his health failed and after a year and a half spent at Springfield he resigned his pastorates and returned to Hamilton, Illinois, where he spent a year in recuperation. On the 1st of September, 1889, he took charge of a congregation at Sidney, Nebraska, continuing there until the 1st of November, 1893. He next went to Dayton, Ohio, where he organized the second Lutheran congregation and built the church in which they are now worshipping. That his labors in that field were very successful is indicated by the fact that he left the congregation with a membership of about two hundred and twenty-five and with a good church free of all incumbrance. Since September, 1900, he has preached continuously for St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church at Sterling and there are many tangible evidences of his labor here. Under his guidance his people have remodeled the church, put in a steel ceiling and redecorated the interior. Four years later they celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the church by installing a new pipe organ. Today there is a membership of over five hundred, a strong active church that is proving a marked power for good in the community.

Mrs. Fleck is a granddaughter of Truman Hosford, who was a native of Vermont, whence he removed to Ohio and later to Illinois. In 1849 he made the long and arduous journey across the plains and through the mountain passes to California and engaged in merchandising in San Francisco. He died there at an advanced age. His wife was Mrs. Elizabeth Hosford. Their son, Harlow Hosford, was born in Ohio and from the vicinity of Warren, Ohio, removed to Illinois when about nine years of age, the family home being established near Warsaw. For many years Harlow Hosford followed farming. He wedded Mary Wright, a native of Scotland and a daughter of William and Anna Wright, who were also born in that country and on coming to America settled near Warsaw, Illinois, where Mr. Wright died at an advanced age. His wife lived to the very remarkable old age of ninety-eight years and retained her mental faculties unimpaired to the last. Their daughter Mary became the wife of Harlow Hosford and they were well known farming people near Warsaw. Mr. Hosford died December 18, 1896, at the age of seventy-two years, while his wife died April 6, 1895, at the age of seventy-one. They were the parents of six children: Harris T., a resident of Urbana, Illinois; Anna E., the wife of Monroe Hanson, of Bedford, Iowa;

Isaac N., of Hamilton, Illinois; Edwin W., also of Hamilton; Harriet O., now Mrs. Fleck; and Mary J., the wife of S. J. Hyndman, of Elvaston, Illinois.

The marriage of Rev. and Mrs. Fleck has been blessed with five children, Vera, Harlow, Irene, Donald and Elmer. Rev. and Mrs. Fleck are well known in social circles of the city, while he is recognized as one of the ablest divines connected with pastoral interests here and is one of the strongest preachers of the Lutheran church in this part of the state. He is a man of scholarly attainments and broad, general information, who has been a student of humanity as well as theology, and he has thus come to know the needs of his fellowmen and their possibilities for development. He has a ready sympathy and a word of encouragement for all, while his discourses are marked by an earnestness and intellectual force that indicate thorough familiarity with his subject.

NOAH W. LANDIS.

Noah W. Landis resides upon his farm in Genesee township but is practically living retired, leaving the active work of the fields to others, while he is enjoying the rest which has come to him as the reward of earnest, persistent and indefatigable labor, manifested both in his general farming pursuits and in stock raising. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, November 4, 1843, and his parents, Jacob N. and Eliza (Weaver) Landis, were also natives of that state. The father was born January 23, 1813, and the mother's birth occurred December 11, 1809. They were reared, educated and married in Pennsylvania, where they continued to make their home until 1852, when they removed westward to Whiteside county, Mr. Landis purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in Sterling township. Upon this property he built a house, which is now standing, on what is known as the Fred Schuler farm. During the cholera epidemic of 1854 he lost his wife and three daughters and two sons, and two years later he passed away. The death of his wife occurred in 1854, while he was called to his final rest on the 17th of March, 1857. In their family were eleven children, of whom five are yet living, namely: Mrs. Eliza Fisher, a resident of Pennsylvania; Mrs. Anna Crider, living in the same state; Noah W., of this review; Mrs. Graeff, of Polo, Illinois; and Jacob, whose home is in Philadelphia.

Noah W. Landis was a little lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents on their removal from Pennsylvania to Illinois. He was a youth of fourteen when left an orphan by the death of his father, after which the children of the family returned to Pennsylvania and lived with an uncle for seven years. Noah W. Landis then again came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and bought eighty acres of the farm upon which he now resides. He immediately began its development and improvement and has added to the property from time to time until he now owns a valuable and productive farm of two hundred and fifty-four acres, the fields in early spring time giving promise

of golden harvests in the autumn. Seldom does Illinois fail to produce good crops in return for the care and labor bestowed upon the fields by her agriculturists, and as the years have passed Mr. Landis has met with a gratifying measure of success. He has always made a specialty of raising and feeding hogs and has thus added materially to his income. For years he continued an active factor in business circles but is now practically living retired, although he still makes his home upon the farm.

Mr. Landis has been married twice. On the 10th of November, 1872, he wedded Miss Elizabeth Bristley, who was born February 26, 1855, in Ohio, a daughter of George and Dora (Eslinger) Bristley, in whose family were four children. Mrs. Landis died May 8, 1893. There were six children of that marriage: Dora, now the wife of Charles Gifferour, of Genesee township; Emma, who is living in Morrison; Fannie, the wife of Benjamin Herr, of Genesee township; Enos, who is cultivating the old homestead farm; Amanda, deceased; and Olive, at home. On the 8th of January, 1898, Mr. Landis was again married, his second union being with Miss Sarah Kuntz, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of David and Elizabeth Kuntz, who were natives of Pennsylvania and in whose family were eight children. The mother is still living in Ohio, at the very advanced age of eighty-seven years. Mrs. Landis came to Whiteside county January 1, 1897, and was married in January, 1898.

Mr. Landis belongs to the Mennonite church and is interested in the various measures and movements which pertain to the intellectual and moral progress of the community as well as its material growth and development. He is well known here and in all of his dealings with his fellowmen has demonstrated his right to their regard and confidence.

JAMES W. NEWCOMER.

Among the residents of Sterling who are now living retired, is numbered James W. Newcomer, an honored veteran of the Civil war. For many years he was identified with newspaper publication, while his last business interest was in connection with the Methodist Book Concern of Chicago. He was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, November 23, 1841, his parents being George W. and Margaret (Wolf) Newcomer, natives of the Keystone state. The father was one of six children, whose parents were farming people of Pennsylvania. He engaged in agricultural pursuits as a life work, retaining his residence in the east until the spring of 1846, when he came westward to Freeport, Illinois, where he made his home throughout the remainder of his life. He was a mechanic and painter. At the time of the Civil war he went to the south with the army as a sutler, and died in northern Alabama in 1865, just at the close of the war. His wife was a daughter of Peter and Margaret Wolf, natives of Pennsylvania, the former a farmer and miller. Both died in the Keystone state when well advanced in years. They had four children, including Mrs. Margaret Newcomer who, long surviving her hus-

band, passed away in 1905. Both Mr. and Mrs. Newcomer were members of the Methodist church. Their family numbered the following children: James W.; Sarah, who died in early womanhood; Mary, the wife of W. W. Lewis, editor of the Greenville Advocate and postmaster at Greenville, Illinois; John B., who died from wounds sustained at Vicksburg in the Civil war; and Agnes, the wife of O. D. Barnum, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

James W. Newcomer, brought to Illinois when five years of age, was reared in Freeport, attended the public schools and in due course of time was graduated from the high school. He was but twenty-one years of age, when, in the spring of 1862, he offered his services to the government as a defender of the Union cause and enlisted as a member of Company D, Ninety-third Illinois Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. He was slightly wounded at Altoona. Joining the regiment as a private he was afterward quartermaster sergeant and acting commissary and subsequently became first lieutenant of Company D. In addition to the battle of Altoona he participated in the Atlanta campaign, in the siege of Vicksburg, in many skirmishes, and was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and in the grand review at Washington, D. C. In the thickest of the fight, on long hard marches, on the lonely picket line, he was ever found loyal to the cause which he espoused.

After the war Mr. Newcomer returned to Freeport but soon became a resident of Chattanooga, Illinois, and worked at the printing trade there for a little more than a year. He then returned to Freeport, where he engaged in the printing business and in 1869 he took up his abode at Lena, Illinois, where he published a paper for a number of years. In 1878 he came to Sterling and was appointed government storekeeper, filling that position for two years. He next became interested in the Sterling Standard with Theodore Mack, and a few years later Professor Alfred Bayliss purchased Mr. Mack's interest and became Mr. Newcomer's partner, with whom he continued until he sold his interest to Thomas Diller. Mr. Newcomer continued with the paper until 1895, when he sold out to his partner, while later he accepted the superintendency of the printing department of the Methodist Book Concern in Chicago. After a year, however, he retired from that position and has since lived in Sterling in the enjoyment of well earned ease. His life for many years was one of untiring activity and enterprise and well directed labor and perseverance intelligently applied, brought him a gratifying measure of success.

On the 27th of December, 1870, Mr. Newcomer was married to Miss Leora Stover, a daughter of Zachariah and Margaret (Willard) Stover, who were natives of Ohio and lived in Stark county. The former was a son of Samuel Stover, who was born in Pennsylvania and made his home in Lancaster county, that state, until his removal to Summit county, Ohio, where he died in middle life. His wife, Mrs. Elizabeth (Keppler) Stover, died at the age of eighty years. They were the parents of ten children. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Newcomer was Henri Willard, a native of Italy, who came to America when a young man and located in Ohio. He married Sarah Siegel and followed milling and farming in order to provide

for his family.' On leaving Ohio Mr. and Mrs. Zachariah Stover took up their abode at Lena, Illinois, in 1856 and there he engaged in the live-stock business for a number of years, while later he conducted a hardware store there for many years. In 1883 he removed to Republic, Kansas, where he established the Republic County Bank, which he successfully conducted until 1900. He died in Pomona, California, in May, 1907, at the age of eighty years, while his wife passed away in 1884, at the age of fifty-four years. Both were Lutherans in religious faith. In community affairs Mr. Stover was active and influential and for many years served as supervisor and also held the office of collector. His family numbered three children: Mrs. Newcomer; Lodisca, the wife of C. M. Williams, of Chicago; and Mrs. Willard Stover, of Pomona, California.

Mr. and Mrs. Newcomer have but one child, Mary L., now the wife of Paul T. Galt, a real-estate and insurance agent of Sterling. They have two sons, Willard Mason and Paul T. Galt, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Newcomer are devoted members of the Congregational church and for some years Mrs. Newcomer served as organist of the Lutheran church at Lena and Sterling. Mr. Newcomer belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; to Will Robinson Post, No. 274, G. A. R., and in politics is a republican, being a member of the Freeport Wide-Awakes during the Lincoln campaign of 1860. He has ever stood for advancement in citizenship and for substantial progress in his community and especially while in the field of journalism exerted a widely felt influence in support of beneficial public measures.

WILLIAM D. DETWEILER.

William D. Detweiler, an enterprising and successful merchant of Whiteside, his native county, was born in Jordan township, October 7, 1862, his parents being Henry M. and Magdalena Detweiler, natives of Pennsylvania. His early education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by a thorough course in a business college at Dixon, Illinois. In 1886 he purchased the stock of H. L. John and engaged in the mercantile business at Penrose, meeting with a well merited measure of success in his undertaking. The growth of the trade soon necessitated larger quarters and he there erected a large and commodious store building—one of the finest of its kind in the county. He carries an extensive and well arranged stock of goods and the straightforward and reliable business methods he has ever followed have insured him a continued and steadily growing patronage. He also holds an interest in the State Bank of Sterling, Illinois, and is a stockholder in the Co-operative Mercantile Company of Chicago. In this latter concern the shareholders each have an equal interest and have found it to be a most satisfactory and profitable investment.

On the 24th of November, 1887, Mr. Detweiler was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth A. Kratz, a daughter of John and Mary (Loux) Kratz, natives of Pennsylvania, who settled in Jordan township, Whiteside county, in 1864.

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W. D. DETWEILER



MRS. W. D. DETWEILER

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The founder of the Kratz family in America was John Valentine Kratz, the youngest son of John Philip Kratz, who was born in Germany, October 8, 1665, and died there in 1746 at the age of eighty years. His wife passed away in 1710 and their children were as follows: Anna Eliza, John, John Philip, Anna Marie, Anna, John Valentine and Anna Elizabeth. Of this family John Valentine Kratz was born in 1707 in the Palatinate province of Germany, bordering the Rhine on the east. On the 20th of June, 1727, when twenty years of age, he embarked on the vessel "Friendship," which brought him to the shores of the new world on the 16th of October following. It is believed that one of his sisters accompanied him on the voyage, though nothing further has been learned of her history. It was on account of religious persecution that John V. Kratz, like many others at that time, left his native land to make his home in a new and practically undeveloped country in order that he might worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. He settled in what was then Salford township, Philadelphia county, now Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, a district in which many wild beasts and savage red men yet abounded. He purchased two tracts of land, one from Gerhart Clemens and one from the commissioners of property. By warrant granted under the lesser seal, bearing date August 3, 1734, there was surveyed to him, on the 12th day of March following, a tract of land in Salford township containing one hundred and sixty-three acres and seventy-one perches, with allowance of six per cent for roads and highways, and for which he paid twenty-five pounds, six shillings, eight pence, receiving a patent thereof on February 14, 1736. It was located on Upper Salford and extended on both sides of the Skeppack road to the crossroad below Salfordville. The other tract, which he purchased from Gerhard Clemens and wife on the 30th of January, 1736, contained fifty-three acres and cost fifty-three pounds. This tract was located in Lower Salford and adjoined the first purchase. Here he built the first house, a structure that is now occupied by Milton H. Alderfer. He resolutely set himself to the task of developing the wild land and as the years passed he prospered, owing to his untiring labor and indefatigable energy. He lived the life of a quiet, unassuming American citizen and in his later years was enabled to live retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. During the time of British oppression, which resulted in the Revolution, he remained loyal to the American cause and departed this life when the struggle was still at its height, in the year 1780, having attained the age of seventy-three years. He had wedded Miss Ann Clemens, presumably the daughter of Gerhart Clemens, and she passed away in 1793. They were among the original members of the Mennonite church of Salford. The first meeting house at that place, in which they worshiped, was erected in 1738 and when this became too small, by reason of increased membership, a larger structure was built about 1770, while the present edifice was erected in 1850, and in the graveyard which adjoins the church were laid to rest the remains of John Valentine Kratz and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Detweiler have two children: Roy K., born May 9, 1896; and Earl K., born August 24, 1899. In his political views Mr. Detweiler is a stanch republican and a public-spirited and enterprising citizen of his

community, having filled the offices of township clerk and town treasurer. Both he and his wife hold membership in the United Brethren church and have the warm esteem and friendship of many with whom they have come in contact. In Whiteside county, where he has spent his entire life, our subject is widely recognized as a leading citizen and prosperous business man, and it is therefore with pleasure that we present his record to our readers.

ELWOOD BEEMAN.

Elwood Beeman was born in Ohio, April 3, 1856. Today he is numbered among the representative agriculturists of Prophetstown township and is also a prominent and influential factor in its community interests, serving at the present writing as supervisor, which position he has filled for seven years. His parents, J. K. and Rachel (Graham) Beeman, were both natives of Ohio, whence they came to Illinois in 1857, locating first in Sterling, where the father found employment as a common laborer. He died there in 1869 and the mother still survives him and yet resides in Sterling. Their family numbered three children: Mina, the wife of Eugene Barnes, of Sterling; Elwood, of this review; and William J., deceased.

Elwood Beeman is preeminently a self-made man. He started out in life working by the month when only fourteen years of age and was thus employed for six years. However, in the meantime he had become imbued with a laudable desire to own a farm of his own and as a step toward this end began the cultivation of a rented farm, later taking possession of the farm upon which he now resides. The fields return to him substantial results in abundant harvests.

Mr. Beman has not only progressed in business lines but has also kept in touch with the advancement of the community and is recognized as one of the leading members of the republican party in the township. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have continued him in the office of supervisor for seven years. He has also served as school director for twenty-six years and is a stalwart champion of the cause of public education, believing in the employment of competent teachers and the adoption of practical methods for educational development. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Odd Fellows Lodge, both at Prophetstown, and likewise affiliates with the Mystic Workers.

In 1879 Mr. Beeman was married to Miss Eurette Gage, who was born in Whiteside county in 1854, a daughter of O. W. and Mercy (Farrington) Gage, the former a native of New York and the latter of Vermont. They came to Illinois with their respective parents in 1836, driving across the country from New York with horse teams. Mercy Farrington was at that time eleven years of age and in 1851 she gave her hand in marriage to O. W. Gage, who, starting out in life, purchased a claim, cut logs and built a house, making the roof of bark, which he peeled from the timber. He constructed a puncheon floor in the little cabin, which was sixteen feet



ROY K. AND EARL K. DETWEILER

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square and had but two little windows. Mercy Farrington lived in this primitive home for several years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gage two daughters were born, but Mrs. Beeman is the only one now living. Her father died in 1889.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beeman have been born five children: Stella, who is a graduate of the Prophetstown high school and is now engaged in teaching; Pansy, who was also graduated in Prophetstown and is a teacher; Harold, Thetta and Rupert, who are yet at home. The parents attend the Congregational church and are well known in this locality, where they have so long resided. More than a half century has come and gone since Elwood Beeman was brought to Illinois and the history of Whiteside county is therefore largely familiar to him. He has been the architect of his own fortune and has builded wisely and well. The success that he has achieved and the honorable methods which he has followed prove him to be a man of strong character, of laudable ambition and persistency of purpose—qualities well worthy of emulation.

JOHN H. McNEILL.

John H. McNeill, a successful coal and grain dealer of Erie, was born in Henry county, Illinois, December 17, 1860, a son of James and Eliza (Dingman) McNeill, the latter a native of Canada, and the former of Ireland. The parents removed to Illinois in an early day, first locating in Whiteside county, Illinois, while subsequently they took up their abode in Henry county, where James McNeill, surviving his wife, passed away in 1881. In the family of this worthy couple were three children: William O.; John H., of this review; and one who is deceased.

John H. McNeill pursued his education in the common schools, and remained with his father until the latter's death, when he started out in life for himself by renting a farm, continuing its cultivation for two years. On the expiration of that period he purchased and operated a hay-baler for fourteen years, being at the same time also engaged in the real-estate business. Subsequently he bought an elevator in Erie, and for the past thirteen years has been buying and shipping grain, also handling coal to some extent. In the conduct of his business interests he has met with a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity, and is widely recognized as one of the successful business men and enterprising citizens of his community. He owns a half interest in two hundred acres of land on section 3, Erie township, and his property holdings also include two fine residences in Erie.

On the 3d of October, 1889, Mr. McNeill was united in marriage to Miss Dora Stiver, who was born in Bureau county, Illinois, in 1871, her parents still residing in Walnut, Bureau county, Illinois. She was one of a family of eight children and by her marriage has become the mother of five children: Mabel W., a public school graduate of the class of 1908; Roy A., who is attending college at Davenport, Iowa; Alston D.; Leland S.; and Gwinavere Ellaine.

In his political views Mr. McNeill is a staunch adherent of the republican party, but without desire for office as a reward for party fealty. His fraternal relations connect him with the Odd Fellows Lodge, No. 890, and with the Knights of Pythias Lodge, No. 317, at Erie. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his county.

CHARLES E. SIBLEY.

Charles E. Sibley, who owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of fine farming land on section 25, Portland township, was born in Middlebury, Vermont, February 14, 1849, his parents being John and Polly Ann (Brydie) Sibley, also natives of the Green Mountain state. In September, 1849, they came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating on section 24, Portland township, where the father purchased sixty acres of land. At the time of his death, which occurred in Portland township, in November, 1882, at the age of sixty-four years, he was in possession of eighty-four acres. His wife survived him for a long period, passing away in Tampico, Illinois, in April, 1901, when she had attained the age of seventy-six years. They were devoted members of the United Brethren church, and were widely known as worthy pioneer residents and people of genuine personal worth. Their family numbered seven children, namely: Charles E., of this review; Eunice, the wife of William Krouse, of Indiana; Henry, of Portland township; Mary, the wife of Bela Garrison, of Lyndon township; Trueman, who resides in Portland township; Ella, the wife of David Kelly, of Mitchell, South Dakota; and Emmet, deceased.

Charles E. Sibley pursued his education in the common schools during the winter months, while in the summer seasons he assisted his father in the work of the home farm. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-six years of age, and gave his father the wages which he earned by working for others as a farm hand. In 1875 he started out in life on his own account by renting a tract of land, being successfully engaged in its cultivation until 1906, when he removed to the place where he now resides on section 25, Portland township, having purchased this property in 1901. The farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land, in the midst of which stands a fine residence, while many modern improvements also give evidence of the enterprising and progressive spirit of the owner. In his general farming interests he has met with a gratifying measure of prosperity and is well known as one of the successful agriculturists of his community.

On the 21st of March, 1875, Mr. Sibley was united in marriage to Miss Emma J. Fuller, who was born in Portland township, August 2, 1852, a daughter of John P. and Elmina N. (Lanphere) Fuller. The father is a native of Randolph, Cattaraugus county, New York, born July 4, 1822, while the mother's birth occurred in Oneida county, New York, August 23,

1821. In 1835 John P. Fuller accompanied his parents on their removal from Erie county, Pennsylvania, to Chicago, which was but a village at that time. They remained there until February 2, 1836, when they drove to Portland township, Whiteside county, where the grandfather of Mrs. Sibley took up one hundred and sixty acres on section 10. John P. Fuller remained at home until he had attained his majority, when he secured employment as a farm hand. In 1842, while working for a Mr. Burk, he was in the house with thirteen others when it was struck and demolished by a tornado. When it was over he found himself six rods away, and so badly injured that for two years he was incapable of doing any work, and has not fully recovered to this day. His wife, whom he married in Warren county, Illinois, June 26, 1846, passed away in October, 1906.

Mrs. Sibley died in February, 1906, leaving a family of seven children to mourn her loss. The record of the family is as follows: Grace, at home; Robert, who married Phoebe Heller and resides in Portland township; Frank, recently married; and Ralph, at home; Jay, who married Miss Agnes Arnett, and lives in Portland township; and Freeman and George, who are yet under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Sibley is a republican and, being much interested in the cause of education, has served as school director. He and his children are all members of the Evangelical church, with which his wife was also identified. Brought to Whiteside county in his infancy, he has witnessed a most wonderful transformation in this part of the state as pioneer conditions and environments have been replaced by the comforts and conveniences of an advanced civilization. The success which has crowned his labors is all the more commendable because of the fact that it is entirely the result of his own well directed activity and energy, guided by sound judgment and unfaltering integrity.

J. M. JACOBS.

J. M. Jacobs, a successful agriculturist of Tampico township, who also conducts a dairy in the village of Tampico, was born in Tampico township, Whiteside county, Illinois, on the 9th of December, 1860. His parents, Joseph and Mary E. (Smith) Jacobs, were natives of Cayuga county, New York, the former born in 1829, and the latter in 1831. They came west in the year 1857, first locating in De Kalb county, Illinois, where they lived for three years, and then settled in Whiteside county, the father having purchased land here. At the time of his death, in 1881, Joseph Jacobs owned two hundred and forty acres of rich farming land, which he had converted from a wild state into one of fertility and productiveness. His wife still survives him, having attained the age of seventy-six years. In their family were four children: A. E., of De Kalb county, Illinois; J. M., of this review; Eva, the wife of Dr. A. H. Morris, of Wisconsin; and Albert H., who resides in Chicago, Illinois.

J. M. Jacobs acquired a common school education and remained at home until he had reached mature years, when he rented eighty acres on section 10, Tampico township, Whiteside county. He is now the owner of this tract, and in addition has one hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota and five hundred acres in Wisconsin. His land holdings are thus quite extensive and entitle him to classification with the enterprising and prosperous residents of the county. In connection with his agricultural interests he conducts a dairy in the village of Tampico, and in both branches of his business has gained a well merited degree of success, being widely recognized as an energetic and progressive business man.

On the 20th of May, 1891, Mr. Jacobs was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Craddock, who was born in Bureau county, Illinois, February 12, 1866. Her father, W. W. Craddock, was born in Cayuga county, New York, in 1837, while her mother's birth occurred in Greene county, Pennsylvania, in 1841. The latter accompanied her parents to Bureau county, Illinois, in 1851. Mr. Craddock was a school teacher by profession. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Craddock were six children, four of whom still survive. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs have been born two children: Roy Burdett and Lester Rex.

In his political views Mr. Jacobs is a republican, and takes an active interest in local politics, serving at the present time as assessor of Tampico township, and also as a member of the village board. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of the Globe at Tampico, and with Blue Lodge, No. 96, A. F. & A. M., of Yorktown, while his wife is identified with the Royal Neighbors. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and are well known and highly respected residents of the community. Mr. Jacobs has resided in this county throughout his entire life, and is therefore familiar with its annals from pioneer times down to the present from personal experience and observation, and that his life has ever been an upright and honorable one is indicated by the fact that his staunchest friends are numbered among those who have known him from his boyhood days.

EUGENE H. CHAMBERLAIN.

Eugene H. Chamberlain, who owns and operates two hundred and eighty acres of rich and productive land in Newton township, Whiteside county, also making a specialty of stock-raising, was born on this farm on the 21st of March, 1855. His parents, H. G. and Susan (Walker) Chamberlain, were natives of New York and Ohio, respectively. The former, accompanying his parents on their removal to the Buckeye state, remained there until twenty-five years of age, and in 1848 went to Rock Island county, Illinois, where he lived for three years. On the expiration of that period he came to Newton township, Whiteside county, bought a squatter's claim, built a small house thereon, and made his home here for one year. He then returned to Ohio, where he was married, and subsequently brought his bride

to his farm in Newton township, which was their place of residence until they were called to their final rest, the father passing away June 11, 1902, while the mother died on the 20th of April, 1907. Unto this worthy couple there were born seven children, namely: Eugene H., of this review; Arthur B., of Erie, Illinois; Alice M., the wife of M. E. Bull, of Currie, Minnesota; Linnie M., who is a school teacher of Erie, Illinois; Lillian M., the wife of Jacob Odenwald, of Newton township, this county; and two who died in infancy.

Eugene H. Chamberlain acquired a common-school education, and when not busy with his text-books aided in the work of the home farm, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Thus by the time he was sixteen years of age he was well qualified to take entire charge of the place, and he successfully continued its operation until he had attained the age of thirty-one years. He now owns two hundred and eighty acres of fine farming land on sections 24, 26 and 27, Newton township, which annually responds in golden harvests to the care and labor he bestows upon it. In connection with the cultivation of the fields he makes a specialty of raising full blooded shorthorn cattle, Percheron horses and Duroc Jersey hogs, his interest in this line of activity being indicated by his membership in the Percheron Horse Society of America and the National Society of Duroc Jersey Hogs. He is widely recognized as one of the prominent and prosperous agriculturists and stock-raisers of the county, whose success is the well merited reward of his untiring industry and sound business judgment.

On the 1st of January, 1885, Mr. Chamberlain was united in marriage to Miss Mary Wheelock, a daughter of A. J. and Bridget (Evans) Wheelock. The father, a native of the state of New York, was born in Genesee county on the 1st of June, 1827, and was a son of the Rev. Wheelock, a native of Massachusetts, who was born in 1794. A. J. Wheelock was the seventh in order of birth in the father's family, and was reared upon the home farm. When he was but five years of age his parents removed to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where the Rev. Wheelock purchased a tract of land, cultivating it for a number of years. He then removed to Bridgewater township, Washtenaw county, Michigan, where he also carried on general agricultural pursuits. His son, A. J. Wheelock, left home when a boy of twelve years and went to Ypsilanti, Michigan, where he secured employment in a livery stable. He followed that occupation for about two years, and when twenty years of age, with the money saved from his earnings, he opened a livery stable of his own in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and conducted the business successfully for six years. In 1853 he removed to Rockford, Winnebago county, Illinois, where he engaged with a stage company, and was thus employed for some time. Later he removed to Kane county, Illinois, and afterward worked on a railroad at Rochelle and La Salle. About 1855 he arrived in Sterling, Whiteside county, where he turned his attention to commercial pursuits, establishing a grocery store. He was married in Sterling, on the 14th of August of that year, to Miss Bridget Evans, a native of Ireland, born December 27, 1826. They were the parents of five children, but only two are now liv-

ing: Mrs. Chamberlain; and George H., an agriculturist of Erie township. The deceased members of the family are William A., Rosanna and Charles J. After the marriage of the parents the father engaged in railroading for a year and subsequently conducted a boarding house for five years. In 1865 he removed to Erie township, Whiteside county, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, to which he afterward added from time to time until he now owns three hundred and twenty-three and a half acres on section 14, Erie township. In 1858 he again established a boarding house for workmen employed on the Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad, but afterward returned to the farm, where he now resides, having long been closely, actively and successfully associated with agricultural interests in this county. He is now practically living retired, making his home with his son, George, his wife having died April 4, 1904.

Mrs. Chamberlain taught school for ten years prior to her marriage, and is a lady of culture and refinement. She now has six children, as follows: Clara E., born September 12, 1887, a graduate of the district school when thirteen years of age; E. Clayton, born January 14, 1889, who is now attending St. Joseph's College at Dubuque, Iowa; Ralph L., whose birth occurred July 17, 1890; George W., born May 28, 1892; Alice M., who was born April 21, 1895; and Joseph E., whose birth occurred November 25, 1900, and who died August 8, 1902.

Mr. Chamberlain is a stanch republican in his political views, but without desire for office, for he feels that his entire time is demanded in the conduct of his business interests. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church, and in the community where they reside are well and favorably known. A native son of Whiteside county and still living on the farm on which his birth occurred, Mr. Chamberlain has not only seen this region grow from a wild country with only a few white inhabitants, to a rich agricultural country, containing thousands of good homes and acres of growing towns, inhabited by an industrious, prosperous, enlightened and progressive people, but he has participated in the slow, persistent work of development which was necessary to produce a change which is so complete that it has come to be popularly referred to as magical.

GEORGE R. HAMILTON.

One by one the early settlers of Whiteside county are passing away, but they have left a monument to their memory in the political and social organization of the county, in its moral development and in its material growth and progress. Among those who came to Illinois when this was a pioneer district and bore its full share in the work of upbuilding and advancement as the years went by was George R. Hamilton. For many years he figured as one of the leading agriculturists and, dependent upon his own resources in early life, he became the owner of four hundred acres of valuable land in Lyndon township, where he carried on farming until his death.



GEORGE R. HAMILTON

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Mr. Hamilton was born February 24, 1820, in Northampton, Massachusetts. His father, Adam R. Hamilton, was also a native of that place, born October 12, 1791, and came of Irish ancestry. He was a printer by trade, but his health becoming impaired, he took up agricultural pursuits, hoping to find physical benefit in the outdoor life of the fields. In the old Bay state he wedded Miss Nancy Miller, who was born there, and on leaving Massachusetts they became residents of New York, where the father devoted his time and energies to general farming until 1835. In the meantime the west was drawing to it men of enterprise and industry, who sought the opportunities of a new and undeveloped country, and after some study into the possibilities that would open before him in Illinois the father determined to establish his home in this state and came to Whiteside county. It was a wild district, sparsely settled. Only three years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and there were still many evidences of Indian occupancy. The sections had not been surveyed but the townships had been laid out and Adam R. Hamilton at once purchased a farm from the government. Eventually he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres, upon which he resided until called to his final rest. For many years the farm was operated under his supervision but in later years he rented the land. He was a soldier of the war of 1812 and in the west he fought the bloodless battles with the wilderness in reclaiming the frontier for the uses of civilization. His wife died in 1860 and, surviving her for about five years, he passed away in 1865. Their family numbered nine children: John M., now deceased; Nancy, who became the wife of Theron Crook, this being the first marriage in the county, and died in 1852; Lovisa, who became the wife of John Swarthout, who died in 1854, after which she became Mrs. Olds and died in 1896; George R., of this review; Mary G., who died in New York at the age of five years; Mary E., who became the wife of John Garlick, of Nebraska, and is now deceased; John, who died in Nebraska, in 1896; Harriet A., now of California, and Adam R., deceased. Harriet Swarthout, daughter of Mrs. Lovisa Swarthout, was the first white child born in Lyndon township, her birth occurring in August, 1839.

At the usual age George R. Hamilton began his education in the schools of his native state, where he resided to the age of fifteen years, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to what was then the far west. He gained his majority amid the wild scenes and environments of pioneer life and early became a factor in the development of the new farm. Reaching the adult age, he began work as a farm hand, spending two years in that way, but ambitious to own land and engage in farming on his own account, he saved his earnings and at the end of two years made his first purchase, becoming owner of a little tract of five acres. It, however, was a start and to this he kept adding from time to time as the years passed by until he gained a place among the substantial agriculturists of the county. After two years' absence from home he returned and rented the old homestead, which he thus carried on until the death of his father. His entire business career was characterized by untiring industry and perseverance and in all things he displayed an aptitude for successful management, combined with keen insight into business situations. Purchasing property from time to time as his financial resour-

ces permitted, he became the owner of four hundred acres of land in Lyndon township, which was devoted to pasturage and to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate. During the period of his residence here a small grove near his home grew into stately trees, adding much to the attractive appearance of the place. In all of his farm work he was progressive, keeping in touch with the trend of modern progress along agricultural lines, and his farm at all times indicated his careful supervision and practical ideas in its well kept appearance.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Hamilton was married May 28, 1867, to Miss Hannah Belt, who was born in Ohio, June 9, 1833. Her parents were also natives of the Buckeye state, whence they removed to Illinois about 1847. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton became the parents of two children, Willie G., the elder, married Nellie Harrison, and died in 1891, leaving a son, W. Vernon. Louie E., the daughter, is now managing the home farm and displays in its control excellent business ability and executive force. The wife and mother died February 6, 1887, and Mr. Hamilton survived her for more than seventeen years, passing away on the 4th of March, 1904. He was a devoted and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church and always stood on the side of progress, reform and moral advancement. His political views were in accord with the principles of the prohibition party. He was a valued member of the Old Settlers' Association, which held its meetings on his farm for many years. Those were notable occasions, when the pioneer residents of the county gathered together and recalled the days of early settlement here and noted the progress made. It is to their efforts that Whiteside county owes its present prosperity and advanced position. The name of Hamilton has been associated with the county continuously and honorably since 1835 and has always been a synonym for good citizenship and for progress in various lines of life. George R. Hamilton was a resident of the county for almost seventy years—the scriptural allotted span of life. Wherever he was known he was respected and honored and most of all where he was best known. A consistent Christian and conscientious man, he was never known to take advantage of the necessities of another in a business transaction and was ever considerate of the rights and privileges of those with whom he came in contact. He gave friendship and he received warm friendship and respect in return and his life record was so inseparably interwoven with the record of Whiteside county's development that no history of the county would be complete without mention of George R. Hamilton.

HENRY BROWN.

Henry Brown, the present efficient supervisor of Whiteside county, is numbered among the public-spirited citizens of this section of the state. He owns and cultivates a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres, situated on section 22, Hume township, and in this line of activity is meeting with good success. He was born in New York city, July 20, 1856, a son

of James and Catherine (Gaulropp) Brown, both of whom were natives of New York, but the mother is now deceased, her death having occurred January 2, 1908, when she had reached the age of seventy-two years. The father is still living in Hume township, at the age of seventy-five years. In the family of this worthy couple were ten children, of whom seven still survive, namely: Henry, of this review; Frank, of Hume township; Mrs. Amelia Heckman, of Sterling; Mrs. Lizzie Gaffey and John, both residents of Hume township; George, a resident of Sterling; and Mrs. Mary Pettit, of Cordova, Illinois. The deceased members of the family are William and two who died in infancy.

Henry Brown was a little lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents from the Empire state to Whiteside county. The family home was established in Coloma township, where the father was employed for a time. Later he came to Hume township and purchased eighty acres of land on section 22, which is the present home of our subject. The son received his education in the common schools of the neighborhood, and was early trained to the duties of the home farm, assisting his father in the work of the fields, so that he gained practical experience in the methods of farm labor. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained the age of twenty-two years, when he began farming on his own account, cultivating rented land for three years. He then purchased the homestead property, to which he has since added until the place now embraces two hundred and forty acres, and he has added all modern improvements and accessories, so that it is now considered one of the valuable farm properties of Hume township. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, Mr. Brown is also engaged to some extent in raising stock.

On the 8th of June, 1887, occurred the marriage of Mr. Brown and Miss Rose Beck, who was born in Germany, October 11, 1865, a daughter of John and Rose (Haberer) Beck, who, on coming to America in 1877, located in Jordan township, where the father was employed as a laborer. Both the father and mother are now deceased, the father passing away a year after his emigration to this country, while the mother survived for one year, passing away in 1879. Their family numbered six children, as follows: Mrs. Christina Wolber, of Sterling; Mrs. Barbara Obendorf, a resident of Carroll county; Mrs. Annie Brown, of Hume township; Jacob, a resident of Sterling; Rose, now Mrs. Henry Brown; and Mrs. August Stern, of Sterling township.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Brown has been blessed with three children, but the youngest, Blanch, died when twenty-two months old, while the surviving members, Elta M. and Ralph H., are still under the parental roof. Mr. Brown formerly gave his political support to the democratic party, but cast his ballot for President McKinley, and since that time has supported the principles of the republican party. He has filled many public positions of trust and responsibility, having for the past nine years served as county supervisor, being the incumbent in that office at the present time. He also served as township clerk for five years, as tax collector for two years, as highway commissioner for six years, while for the past twenty years he has filled the office of school trustee. He is a Modern Woodman, belonging to

Sterling Camp, No. 12. He is public spirited in an eminent degree and on all matters of public interest he is ever to be found on the right side. He is a man of broad and comprehensive views, and the people of Whiteside county look upon him as an exemplary man, and are proud to number him among its best citizens.

WILLIAM ALLEN BLODGETT.

William Allen Blodgett is numbered among the younger but more successful members of the Morrison bar, and the liberal clientage accorded him is proof of the creditable standing he has gained as a practitioner of law. One of Whiteside county's native sons, he was born in Ustick township, January 23, 1873, of the marriage of Rufus K. and Luna P. (Martin) Blodgett. The father was born in Lewis county, New York, in 1827, and was of English and Scotch descent. He acquired his education in the common schools, and in 1854 came to Illinois, teaching school in Fulton and in Ustick township for a number of years. He then purchased land on section 31, Ustick township, and gave his attention to farming, making his home thereon until 1879, when he retired to Morrison and spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He was a man of marked industry and enterprise, who carefully directed his farming interests and thereby won creditable prosperity. He was always reliable in his business transactions and the rules which governed his conduct were such as won for him the high esteem and confidence of his neighbors. He was a man of more than ordinary intelligence and education and his opinions carried influence among many who knew him. Fraternally he was connected with the Masons, and politically with the republicans, and he held a number of township offices. His wife, who is of German descent, is still living in Morrison. Unto them were born six children: W. Lee, a manufacturer of washing machines, etc., in Sterling; Armina M., the wife of Alfred J. McKee, a liveryman of Morrison; Edwin M., who was formerly a lawyer and manufacturer, but is now living retired in Sterling; William Allen, of this review; Albert M., of Fulton, who is agent for the American Express Company; and Harriet E., at home.

William A. Blodgett, reared under the parental roof, acquired his education in the public schools of Morrison, and then returned to the farm, where he remained until he was twenty-two years of age, working by the month with the exception of the last two years. During that period he engaged in farming on his own account. In 1896 he entered the Northern Illinois College at Fulton, and was graduated therefrom in June, 1900. One year of that time was spent in the business department, and the remainder as a law student. In the spring of 1900 he was admitted to the bar and began practice in Morrison in January, 1901, entering into partnership with John A. Riordon, under the firm style of Blodgett & Riordon. They have been unusually successful in their practice, and now have a large and dis-

tinectively representative clientage. They also do a loan and insurance business and are meeting with success in those lines.

Mr. Blodgett is interested in many outside concerns which have direct bearing upon the welfare of the city or promote its social interests. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the ladies' auxiliaries of the two first mentioned. He has been secretary of the Whiteside County Central Agricultural Society for a number of years, and is interested in the agricultural development of this part of the state. In politics he is a republican, and in 1903 was elected city attorney, which position he is now filling for the third term, his re-elections indicating clearly the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. An excellent presence, an earnest manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law, and the ability to accurately apply its principle, make him an effective and successful advocate.

On the 23d of March, 1908, Mr. Blodgett was married to Miss Alice T. Coonradt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur R. Coonradt, at their home in Riverside, California. Mrs. Blodgett is also a native of Illinois.

OSCAR SMITH PARTRIDGE.

Oscar Smith Partridge, an enterprising and prosperous agriculturist residing on section 35, Hopkins township, was born on the 4th of September, 1854, in Providence, Rhode Island, a son of Samuel Smith and Lucy (Sherman) Partridge, also natives of that state. The grandfather, Otis Partridge, was born in the little village of Walpole, Massachusetts, February 16, 1764. Reared as he was, in those years of struggle and strife, when our country was fighting so bravely for independence, he had not the advantage of the thorough system of schooling that is supported by our government at the present time. However, he possessed strong determination and unfaltering diligence and, though the road to knowledge was beset with many difficulties and obstacles, he was successful in obtaining an education. The name of Otis Partridge was honored and esteemed by all, his advice and counsel was much sought and freely given, and as a man he was loved and trusted by those with whom he was associated. In 1785, when twenty-one years of age, he was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Smith, also a native of Walpole, and their family numbered eight sons and eight daughters. Ezekiel, of Templeton, Massachusetts, the eldest, was deacon of the Unitarian church at that place for more than fifty years. He was a school teacher and farmer, and married Nancy Mowry, of Walpole, Massachusetts. Ruth, the second member of the family, became the wife of Joel Fales, of Walpole, Massachusetts. Otis, a farmer and millwright by occupation, married Miss Unity Fales, of Walpole, Massachusetts. Herman, also a farmer and millwright, was joined in wedlock to Miss Harriet Allen, of Walpole, Massachusetts. Hervey, twin brother of Herman, followed blacksmithing and farming, and wedded Miss Rachel Paine, of Foxboro, Massachusetts. Hannah became

the wife of Aaron Jones, of Templeton, Massachusetts. Grata married Jonas Rice, also of Templeton, Massachusetts. Warren, a physician by profession, wedded Miss Amoret Potter, of Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire. Emmons, who was a blacksmith and a Universalist preacher for a number of years, married Miss Charlotte Boyden, of Walpole, Massachusetts. Harriet became the wife of Luther Baker, of Templeton, Massachusetts. Lucy wedded Abel Davis, likewise of Templeton, Massachusetts. Maynard, a farmer, miller and lumber dealer, was the originator of the celebrated Partridge table for measuring logs into cord feet by caliper measure, which is in general use throughout New England and other states. He was chosen deacon of the Congregational church in 1838, and chose for his wife Miss Mary H. Upham, of Templeton, Massachusetts. Julia Partridge died while young. Amanda married Uriah B. Moore, of Templeton, Massachusetts. Samuel Smith, the youngest member of the family, became the father of our subject. Otis Partridge, the grandfather, in association with his oldest son, purchased about four hundred acres of land on Mine Hill and surroundings in Templeton, Massachusetts, removing there in the spring of 1811. Up to the 1st of January, 1882, his descendants numbered one hundred and twelve grandchildren, one hundred and ninety great-grandchildren, and one hundred and five great-great-grandchildren. Mechanical skill and musical ability have been the most prominent characteristics of the children.

Samuel Smith Partridge, the father of our subject, was a blacksmith and horeshoer, noted for his skill as a mechanic, having received a diploma as an expert horseshoer at the age of sixteen years. Noted horsemen came to him from all parts of the country to employ his services in the shoeing of their horses. In 1854 he removed westward to Whiteside county, Illinois, and opened a shop in Como, which was then a commercial center, remaining at that place throughout the remainder of his life. He passed away in 1872 at the age of fifty-eight years, and the county mourned the loss of one of its respected and worthy pioneers. He was always a hard working man and had borne his full share in the work of early development and progress here. His wife survived him for many years, passing away in 1896, when about eighty years of age. Those of the grandsons who have gained success in mercantile lines are: George Partridge, of St. Louis; Charlie and Josiah, of New York; and Horace, of Boston. Those who have won a creditable place in literary circles are: Leonard Jones, of Boston; Professor Lucas Baker, of Fitchburg, Massachusetts; and Rev. John Warren Partridge, late of Greeley, Colorado.

Oscar Smith Partridge, the subject of this review, was educated in the common schools and from an early age has been engaged in farming. He owns one hundred and ninety-seven acres of land, all under a high state of cultivation, and in addition to the work of general farming he also carries on stock-raising. He makes a specialty of full blooded Plymouth Rock chickens, on which he has been awarded many premiums, and has also met with a large measure of prosperity in the conduct of his farming interests.

On the 3d of September, 1875, Mr. Partridge was united in marriage to Miss Anna Adelia Scott, a daughter of John E. and Anna (Shereer) Scott,

further mention of whom is made on another page of this work. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Partridge have been born the following named: Myrtle, the wife of Ira Shontz, an agriculturist of Whiteside county; Bernice, who became the wife of Melvin Shontz, a farmer residing on Woodlawn farm No. 4, in this county; Lawrence; Mabel Mildred; Gladys May; and Hazel Ruth.

In his political views Mr. Partridge is a staunch republican and has served as school director for twelve years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart friend. He is a Methodist in religious faith, and throughout the community is held in high esteem by reason of the straightforward and honorable principles which have actuated him in all life's relations. Brought to this county in infancy, he has since resided within its borders and has therefore been a witness of the many changes that have occurred as pioneer conditions have given way before the onward march of civilization and development.

JOHN R. MATTHEWS.

A fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, situated in Prophetstown township, is evidence of the thrift and energy of John R. Matthews, who is here engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He was born near Pond Creek, in Bureau county, Illinois, September 9, 1859, and comes of English parentage. His father, Henry Matthews, was born in Cornwall, England, June 11, 1820, and was married in that country on the 23d of March, 1850, to Miss Grace Spargo, whose birth occurred in 1822. Soon after their marriage they emigrated to America, their home being established in Dover, New Jersey, where they remained for five years, subsequent to which time they made their way to Illinois, the family home being established in Bureau county. After a residence of twenty years in that county, Mr. Matthews removed with his family to Whiteside county, purchasing a farm near Leon, where he made his home until his death, which occurred January 6, 1900, when he had reached the venerable age of eighty years. The mother, however, is still living, making her home in Prophetstown township. Their family numbered eleven children, of whom four are still living, as follows: William, a resident of Prophetstown township; Mrs. Elizabeth Martin, who lives in Iowa; Mrs. Ann Terry, a widow, who lives with her mother; and John R., of this review.

John R. Matthews was reared on the homestead farm in Bureau county, and there acquired his education in the common schools. He assisted his father in the work of the fields until he had reached manhood when, at the age of twenty-one years, he started out in life on his own account by working by the month as a farm hand. He carefully saved his earnings, and in 1892, in connection with his brother, Albert, purchased eighty acres of land, to which they later added an additional tract of eighty acres. They improved the land and added many modern conveniences and accessories, and thus made it a valuable property. Upon the death of his brother, John R. Matthews

purchased his interest from the estate and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres, which is devoted to general farming, feeding all the grain he raises to his stock, of which he has high grades. He is an energetic farmer and stock-raiser, and is thus meeting with prosperity in his chosen field of labor.

Mr. Matthews further established a home of his own by his marriage on the 20th of September, 1893, to Miss Mary Reynolds, the adopted daughter of Edwin and Harriett Reynolds, and by her marriage she has become the mother of one son, Henry E. Matthews.

Mr. Matthews formerly gave his political support to the republican party, but in later years has supported the prohibition party. He has never cared for political preferment, and aside from serving as school director has filled no public offices. He and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. Matthews is serving as a trustee, while socially they are connected with the Fraternal Reserves. Mr. Matthews belongs to that class of representative men who rapidly discern opportunities of improvement and who are rapidly forging their way to the front. Brooking no obstacles that can be overcome by honorable and determined effort, he is working his way upward and is already favorably known because of his capability and laudable ambition.

JOHN JAY KNOX.

John Jay Knox, who carries on general farming on section 21, Mount Pleasant township, was born in Aurora, Dutchess county, New York, January 23, 1833, his parents being James and Amy (Martin) Knox, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. The son was but two years of age when his parents came to Whiteside county, the family home being established at Prophetstown in 1835. There the father built the ferry, which he operated for two years, after which he removed to Morrison and bought a claim from John Stakes, in what is now Mount Pleasant township, there residing for some time. Eventually he sold that property and removed to a farm of eighty acres of section 16, Mount Pleasant township—the school section—where he resided until his demise. He was reared in the faith of the Society of Friends or Quakers and in that church his mother was a minister. Later in life James Knox joined the Methodist Episcopal church and its teachings constituted the guiding rule of his life throughout his remaining days. His political views were in accord with the principles of the republican party and he was a man whom to know was to respect and honor, for he was always faithful to his convictions and fearless in defense of what he believed to be right.

John Jay Knox was one of twelve children and under the parental roof was reared, remaining in Morrison until fifteen years of age. His educational advantages were somewhat limited, for the schools of that early day were of a primitive character, but as he has journeyed on in life he has



MR. AND MRS. JOHN J. KNOX

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learned many valuable lessons from reading and experience. In his business career he has devoted his time and energies to farming and has been quite successful. Since the spring of 1837 he has resided continuously in Mount Pleasant township and prior to his marriage had improved his present farm. He bought eighty acres of state land on section 21, Mount Pleasant township, in 1856 or 1857, it being then a tract of raw prairie on which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. Soon, however, the track of the shining plow was seen across the fields and with the planting of the seeds and cultivation of the crop there came in course of time abundant harvests to reward his labors. He also owned another forty-acre tract of land at one time, but eventually disposed of that property. He continued to engage in general farming until fifteen years ago, when he rented his land and has since lived retired.

Mr. Knox was married in this county in 1863 to Miss Lucy Humphrey, who was born in the state of New York in 1834 and is a daughter of Porter Humphrey. She came to this state as a young lady of about eighteen or twenty years and arrived in Whiteside county about the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. But two children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Knox and both died in infancy.

Mr. Knox has always supported the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, but has never desired office. For more than the scriptural age of man—three score years and ten—he has lived in this county and there are few who have more intimate knowledge of its history. Many pictures of pioneer life have been indelibly impressed upon his memory and he relates various interesting incidents of the time when the number of inhabitants in the entire county would hardly equal the population of a single township today. The methods of living, too, were very different from those of the present time, but with the onward march of progress Mr. Knox has always kept apace and like others of the family has ever maintained a foremost position in the ranks of the leading agriculturists in this part of the state.

CHARLES F. OSBORNE.

Among Erie's native sons whose life records reflect credit upon the place of their nativity is numbered Charles F. Osborne, a prominent and successful lumberman, conducting extensive business interests along that line in Minneapolis, and also the owner of a yard in Erie. The keen discernment and well directed energy which he has displayed have been the salient features of a success which is as honorable as it is gratifying.

He was born in Erie township, December 24, 1853, a son of Andrew Jackson Osborne. The father was born in Massachusetts, December 17, 1830, and was a son of James and Rebecca (Glass) Osborne, whose family numbered two sons and two daughters, his brother being James Osborne. He was only six or seven years of age at the time of his father's death, after which

he went to live with an uncle. He acquired his education in the east, and at the age of eighteen years made his way to Illinois, teaching school in early manhood in Rock Island and Henry counties. He was married in March, 1853, near Erie, and located upon a farm in Erie township, three miles south of the village. The place comprised one hundred and sixty acres, which he had formerly purchased, and which he cultivated for three years, after which he sold the property. He then bought a sawmill in Erie, which he conducted for a time, and on selling out removed to Pottawattamie county, Iowa, where he carried on general farming for five years, also following the profession of surveying in that state. Upon his return to Illinois he settled at Geneseo, where he engaged in teaching school through the winter months, while the summer seasons were devoted to the work of the fields. After three years there passed he returned to Erie, where he continued to make his home until his death, on the 13th of August, 1902. He had about two hundred and fifty acres of good land, the operation of which he largely left to his sons, while he gave his time to bridge construction in this locality. The last work in which he was engaged was the preparation of a work entitled "The Monetary Revolution," an advance in the philosophy and science of money, dedicated to liberty and labor. It was published in 1898. In his later years he gave much of his attention to literary pursuits and was a writer of force and ability, a clear, logical thinker, intelligent in his reasoning and fluent in his expression. While the honors and emoluments never attracted him and he cast an independent ballot, he was always deeply interested in the political questions before the public. He held some local offices, serving as assessor for many years and in different official positions in connection with the schools. He was also once his party's candidate for the legislature, but was defeated by a small majority.

Andrew J. Osborne was married to Miss Elizabeth Smith, who was born in Aurora, Kane county, Illinois, April 12, 1835. She was there reared and came to Whiteside county in 1853 with her parents, Benjamin H. and Mary (Jackson) Smith, who were born, reared and married in New York. Her mother died in Aurora, Illinois, at the age of twenty-two years, after which her father married again and died in Geneseo at the age of sixty years. In his family were five children: Mrs. Elizabeth Osborne, now of Erie; Charles, deceased; John, who is living in Los Angeles, California; and Henry and Mary, who have passed away. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Osborne have been born the following named: Charles F.; Ella, the wife of Herman Schriver, of Erie; Henry, of Lincoln county, Oklahoma; Barnett, at home. Jesse, also of Oklahoma; Grant, of Minneapolis; Elizabeth, the wife of Elias Blagg, of Erie; Rebecca, the wife of Harry Guthrie, of Omaha, Nebraska; Lucy, the wife of John Vance, of Wilson, North Dakota; Andrew, who is living at Barron, Wisconsin; and Rachel, who died at the age of two and a half years.

Charles F. Osborne was reared in Erie township to the age of twenty-three years, when, hoping to secure better business opportunities than seemed to be offered in this locality, he made his way to western Iowa and afterward to the Black Hills. He returned to this county, however, for his bride

and was married in 1882 to Miss Hettie M. Nevitt, who was born in Newton township in 1853, a daughter of Grant S. and Lena (Martin) Nevitt, who were natives of Kentucky, and removed from southern Illinois to Whiteside county, where the father preempted land, spending his remaining days in Newton township. His family numbered two sons and six daughters.

Following his marriage Charles F. Osborne removed to northern Wisconsin, where he became bookkeeper for a lumber company, acting in that capacity for two years. He then embarked in business on his own account at Minneapolis in 1885 and as the years passed developed an extensive lumber trade. His headquarters are now at No. 300 Lumber Exchange and he is conducting an important enterprise in his line as senior partner of the firm of Osborne & Clark. He has also owned and conducted a lumberyard at Erie for the past five years and for four years in Wisconsin. He is also connected with the wholesale lumber trade as one of the owners of the Hardwood Lumberyard of Minneapolis and is in control of a business today representing a total investment of two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. His labors in the business world have been characterized by energy and good system, by definite purpose and consideration. His plans have been carefully performed and promptly executed, and each step in his business career has been one in advance.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Osborne have been born four children, of whom two died in infancy, while Earl M. and Edna M. are both at home. Mr. Osborne is a Mason and has attained the Knight Templar degree of the commandery and also is a member of the Mystic Shrine. In politics he is an independent democrat. Since starting out in business on his own account he has been watchful of every indication pointing to success and his record has been so honorable that he has gained the confidence and good will of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He has excellent ability as an organizer combined with superior executive power which enables him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

MICHAEL CUNNIFF.

Among the farmers of Hume township of foreign birth was numbered Michael Cuniff, who died on the home farm October 27, 1889. He was born in County Galway, Ireland, June 23, 1837, and was a son of Michael and Mary (Doyle) Cuniff, who spent their entire lives in their native country. They had three sons, of whom Michael and James are now deceased, while John is a resident of Hume township, Whiteside county, Illinois. The father was a civil engineer and a man of advanced views who believed in giving his children good educational privileges.

Michael Cuniff was therefore well equipped for the responsible and practical duties of life. He came to America in 1845 and settled in Pennsylvania, where he worked at farm labor. In 1866 he removed westward to Sterling, Illinois, where he was married. It was on the 27th of November, of

that year, that he wedded Miss Bridget Hurley, who was born in County Galway, Ireland, August 20, 1843, her parents being Bernard and Bridget (Neary) Hurley, who lived and died in Ireland. They had seven children but only two are living: Mrs. Ellen Doyle, a widow, residing in Hume township; and Mrs. Cunniff.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cunniff returned to Pennsylvania, where they remained for eight months, and then again came to Sterling. Here they entered the employ of W. T. Patterson, who had a contract on the Northern Pacific railroad. In his service they went to the Black Hills, Mr. Cunniff being engaged in railroad construction while Mrs. Cunniff conducted a boarding house, cooking for one hundred and twenty men most of the time. Her work was most arduous at that time. She has fried beefsteak from three o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock and other domestic duties kept her equally busy throughout the remainder of the day. Mr. and Mrs. Cunniff were thus employed until the railroad was extended to Utah, after which they returned to this county in November and with the money they had saved they purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land on section 21, Hume township. It was only a partially improved farm and with characteristic energy Mr. Cunniff began its further development and cultivation, carrying on general agricultural pursuits there until his death. He led a very busy, active and useful life and whatever success he achieved was attributable entirely to his own labors and the able assistance of his wife. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cunniff were born the following children: James, who married Lizzie Drew and has two children, Laura E. and Catherine E., their home being in Hume township; Ellen, the wife of Nicholas Horn, of Chicago, by whom she has three children, John T., Gertrude and Cecelia; Anna, who is living in Denver, Colorado; Thomas, a resident of Hume township; and Michael and John, both at home.

Mr. Cunniff was a democrat in his political views and was a communicant of the Catholic church. He died in that faith October 27, 1889, and is yet survived by his widow, who since 1864 has made her home in America, in which year she came with her sister to the new world, settling in Sterling.

J. L. MYERS.

No citizen of Whiteside county is more widely or more favorably known than he whose name introduces this record. He came here, one of the pioneers of this section of the state, and with the other early settlers bore his full share in the arduous labor carried on in the development and improvement of this district, and now, after long years of earnest and persistent toil—years which have been crowned with splendid success, he is living a contented and happy life on his well improved farm of two hundred and two acres, situated in Genesee township, where he expects to spend the evening of his life in honorable retirement.

Mr. Myers was born in Carroll county, Maryland, November 29, 1829, a son of Joseph and Mary (Lehman) Myers, both of whom were natives of

Pennsylvania. The mother died in the Keystone state, but the father passed away in McDonough county, Illinois. Their family numbered nine children, but only three are now living, the two brothers of our subject being Andrew L. and Isaac L., the former a resident of Pennsylvania, while the latter makes his home in Washington.

J. L. Myers was reared and educated in his native state, his studies being pursued in one of the old-time log school houses of that day, wherein the methods of instruction were equally as primitive as was the building. He remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty years, when he began learning the miller's trade, at which he worked for nine years. Believing, however, that the west offered better business opportunities for the ambitious young man, he resolved to come to Illinois, the year of his arrival being 1852, at which time he located in Franklin Grove, Whiteside county. Later, however, he took up his abode in Pine Creek, Ogle county, this state, where for a short time he worked at his trade, but once more returned to Whiteside county, and has since made this his home. In 1855 he went to Iowa and entered eighty acres of land from the government, but soon afterward traded that property for eighty acres of wild land in Whiteside county. He developed and improved this property and was engaged in its cultivation for seven years, at the end of which time he disposed of that farm and bought one hundred and forty-nine acres in Genesee township, this constituting a part of his present home. He here energetically took up the work of improving and developing the land, raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, and each year gathered rich crops as a reward for the care and labor which he bestowed upon the fields. As time passed and he prospered in his undertakings, he extended the boundaries of his farm by additional purchases, until at one time he possessed eight hundred acres, but he has since divided with his children, giving to each an eighty-acre tract, and has retained but two hundred and two acres in his home property, whereon he is now living, practically retired. In addition to tilling the fields he also engaged in raising and feeding stock, and this branch of his business added not a little to his financial income, which made possible his extensive purchase of land. He was always very methodical in his farm labor, while in his business transactions he was honorable and straightforward, so that his prosperity is well deserved.

It was in 1857 that Mr. Myers was united in marriage to Miss Nancy J. Cochenour, who was also born in the Keystone state, and was one of a family of nine children. She died on the 3d of November, 1904. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Myers were born four children: Mary Ellen is the widow of D. W. Shank and resides with her father. She had three children, two of whom survive, namely: Emma, the wife of Charles Mock, of Whiteside county; and Joseph, who lives with her mother and grandfather. John A. Myers makes his home in Washington. Joseph E. resides in Genesee township, this county. Anna is the wife of Jacob Hauger, and also resides in Genesee township.

A republican in principle and practice, Mr. Myers gives stalwart support to the party and has served as school director and road commissioner.

His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Baptist church. As a pioneer resident of the county it is but fitting that the record of Mr. Myers' life should find place in this volume. He stands today as a high type of American manhood, one who has won unbounded success in life through his own energy, and careful management, and now, in the evening of life, he is enjoying in honorable retirement, the accumulations of profitable and successful careers.

GEORGE W. TIMMERMAN.

George W. Timmerman, who is successfully engaged in the real-estate and insurance business in Prophetstown, was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, February 22, 1850, his parents being John and Rachel M. (Fuller) Timmerman, likewise natives of the Empire state. In the year 1861 the father removed to Whiteside county, Illinois, and was engaged in the operation of rented land until his demise in 1898 at the age of eighty-nine years. His wife passed away on the 12th of September, 1890. By her marriage she had become the mother of the following children: Cordelia, the wife of Hiram Gilmore, who resides in California; Mary Ann, the wife of William McCollister and a resident of Arkansas; John Deloss, who died while serving his country as a soldier in the Union army; Wesley V., of Whiteside county; Levi E., who makes his home in Harvey, Illinois; Alice E., who is the wife of Arthur Welding and lives in Erie, Whiteside county; Anna, who became the wife of C. I. Merrill and also resides in this county; and George W., of this review.

George W. Timmerman remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority and then started out in business life as a clerk in a store at Erie, Illinois, in which position he continued for three years. On the expiration of that period he journeyed to California in 1876, being there employed as a clerk in a hardware store for nine years, his long retention being incontrovertible proof of his fidelity and capability in the discharge of his duties. Subsequently he returned to Illinois and took charge of his father's farm, successfully conducting the same for a period of nineteen years, at the end of which time he purchased the property. After his parents' death he removed to Prophetstown, where he has since been engaged in the insurance and real-estate business and is also a dealer in monuments. He owns three residence properties besides his office building and is widely recognized as one of the prominent and representative business men of the town, whose success is entirely the result of his own well directed labor and enterprise. He is likewise well known as a notary public and in the various branches of his business has gained a well merited and gratifying measure of prosperity.

There is also a military chapter in the life history of Mr. Timmerman, for he was a member of Company B, Sixth Regiment of Illinois Militia, serving under Colonel J. D. Foster for four years. He was one of the company that guarded the Chicago stockyards in 1894.

In 1881 Mr. Timmerman was united in marriage to Mrs. Josie Williams, a native of Maine, who passed away in 1885. On the 13th of February, 1908, he married Mrs. Carrie Drain Matthews, daughter of Thomas A. Drain, of Leon, Illinois, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume.

In his political views Mr. Timmerman is a stanch republican and has held several township offices, being a public-spirited citizen who has the welfare of his fellowmen at heart. He was assistant postmaster at Spring Hill for two years, from 1900 to 1902, and census enumerator of Portland township in 1900. Fraternally he is connected with Prophetstown Lodge, No. 293, A. F. & A. M.; Prophetstown Chapter, No. 174, R. A. M.; the Knights of Pythias; and Prophetstown Camp, No. 16, Modern Woodmen of America. In Whiteside county, where he has long resided, Mr. Timmerman is well and favorably known as a straightforward and reliable business man, a progressive citizen and faithful friend.

AUREN S. BREWER.

Auren S. Brewer, who until recently conducted a hardware store in the village of Tampico, while formerly he was identified with farming interests in Whiteside county, was born in Monterey, Massachusetts, in 1838, a son of Hiram and Clarissa (Hollister) Brewer, who were also natives of the old Bay state but spent their last days in Washington, D. C. In his younger life the father was a blacksmith and later he held minor political positions in the capital city, being timekeeper at the capitol during the eighteen years in which additions were being made to that magnificent structure.

Auren S. Brewer spent the first fourteen years of his life in the state of his nativity and then removed with his parents to Prince Georges county, Maryland, where he resided for four or five years. They next went to Washington, D. C. Mr. Brewer acquired a common-school education and from Washington went to Lynchburg, Virginia, where he remained until the outbreak of the war, when he returned home. He was employed by an express company in both Washington and in Lynchburg and on leaving that service in the capital city he entered a banking house. He was also employed as clerk in the patent office and spent some time in the treasury department prior to his removal westward to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1877. Here he has been located continuously since. He first took up his abode on a farm a half mile east of the town, where he lived until about a year ago, having two hundred and forty acres of land which he cultivated and improved, transforming it into a productive farm, from which he annually gathered good harvests. On locating in the town he established a hardware store, which he recently disposed of on account of ill health. Whatever success he has achieved is attributable entirely to his own labors, for he started out in life empty-handed.

In 1872 Mr. Brewer was united in marriage to Miss Amelia B. Proctor, who was born in Milford, Otsego county, New York, in April, 1837, a

daughter of Moses B. and Adelia Proctor. The marriage was celebrated in Milford, New York, and two children have been born unto them: Frederick A., who is the present supervisor of Tampico township and resides on his father's farm; and Clara Adelia, who is engaged in teaching and resides at home.

In politics Mr. Brewer is a stalwart republican, inflexible in his support of the principles of the party. He was supervisor of Tampico township for two terms but has never cared much for public office. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to Tampico Lodge. He is also one of the directors of the Whiteside County Fair, which has been held at Morrison for eighteen years, and has acted as superintendent of the horse department. He has raised many fine Clydesdale horses, also Shorthorn cattle and high grades of hogs, and is a splendid judge of stock, being thus well qualified to act as superintendent of live-stock interests at the fair. There have been no exciting chapters in his life record but he has always been a diligent man, doing faithfully day by day the duties that have come to him and has thus commanded the respect and confidence of all who know him.

FRANCIS MARION THOMAS.

Francis Marion Thomas is well deserving of mention among the representative citizens of Whiteside county. He is one of her native sons and his entire life entitles him to recognition because of the honorable principles he has followed and the straightforward methods he has pursued in his business career. He has never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen, but on the contrary has displayed even-handed justice that has gained him unqualified trust.

Mr. Thomas was born in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, December 27, 1843. His father, George W. Thomas, was a native of St. Clair county, Illinois, born in 1820, and his death occurred August 30, 1893. His parents were Anthony and Jane (Jordan) Thomas, natives of South Carolina, in whose family were the following named: Polly, the wife of Felix French; Margaret A., the wife of G. O. James; Julia, the wife of Samuel Currie; Grizzly, the wife of Henry Paschal; James, who married Sarah Platt; Elizabeth, the wife of William French; George W., the father of our subject; John, who died unmarried in California; and William, who married Mary Hodges.

In Cass county, Illinois, George W. Thomas was married in 1842 to Miss Mary Paschal, whose birth occurred in Wilson county, Tennessee, March 4, 1823, her parents being Isaiah and Agnes (Freeman) Paschal, natives of North Carolina. Their children were William Henry, who married Grizzly Thomas, as previously stated; John D., who wedded Nancy Short; David, who married Miss Mary Snyder; Emily, the wife of Joel Horn; Coleman, who married Sally Street; Amy, the wife of Allison McCord; Samuel, who married Hannah Street; Lucy, the wife of James Thomas; Amanda, who mar-



F. M. THOMAS

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ried Samuel Stevenson; Jarett, who married Margaret Shaffer; Green, who wedded Sarah Deweber; Mary, the mother of our subject; and Joan, the wife of Richard Wright.

In 1842, immediately after their marriage, George W. Thomas and his wife came to Hickory Grove, Whiteside county, and entered land on section 9, Mt. Pleasant township, the tract comprising two hundred and twenty-eight acres of rich and productive land. Here he opened up a farm and made for himself and family a home. As the years passed he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and was quite successful, remaining on his farm until within three years of his death. His last days were spent at Morrison, where he passed away August 30, 1893. His wife survived him for almost ten years, her death occurring February 24, 1903. In politics George W. Thomas was a republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party. He was also an earnest and consistent Christian, holding membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and was a leader in both church and Sunday school work. To Mr. and Mrs. George W. Thomas were born the following children, of whom two died in infancy and two in childhood. The others are as follows: Francis M.; Addison P., a successful farmer of Lyndon township and a veteran of the Civil war; Samuel T., who married Margaret Harrow and is living in Mt. Pleasant township; Nathan J., a retired farmer of Morrison, who wedded Emma Heaton; Elizabeth, the widow of David Finch, of Sterling; Robert Milton, who married Annie Cope and is living in Ustick township; George E., who wedded Grace Quackenbush, who died at the age of twenty-five years; and Minnie, the wife of Jacob Feldman, of Mt. Pleasant township.

On the old homestead farm in his native township Francis Marion Thomas spent his boyhood and acquired his education in the district schools and in the Morrison public schools. In August, 1862, when but eighteen years of age, he responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting in defense of the Union as a member of Company F, Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. With that command he went from Chicago to Memphis, Tennessee, in November, 1862, the regiment there spending the winter. In the spring of 1863 the Ninety-third Illinois was sent down the river to participate in the Vicksburg campaign. They proceeded first to Yazoo Pass and afterward returned from there on the west side of the river to a point below Vicksburg. Crossing the river, the Ninety-third Illinois had an engagement with the enemy at Jackson, Tennessee, losing a few men. On the 16th of May, 1863, Mr. Thomas was taken prisoner at Champion Hill, but after three days was paroled and returned to the Union lines. He was then sent home, where he remained for about three months until he was duly exchanged, when he returned to his regiment, with which he remained until the close of the war. He reached the command in time to participate in the Chattanooga campaign and was in the battle of Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863, and later in the battle of Chickamauga. He was also at Allatoona, Georgia, in a hand-to-hand contest, which was later made famous by the song based on the message of General Sherman, "Hold the fort, for I am coming." The Ninety-third was with Sherman on his march to the sea and

spent the winter at Savannah, Georgia. Later they were at Columbia, South Carolina, when that place was burned, and Mr. Thomas also participated in the grand review at Washington, the celebration which attended the close of the war, when the president reviewed the returning troops, who, as they marched through the streets of the capital city, were cheered by countless thousands. In the three years at the front, the Ninety-third Illinois traveled twenty-six hundred miles on foot and covered about thirty-six hundred miles by boat and train, a total distance of some six thousand miles. The record of the regiment was most commendable and after the close of the war its members were mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, June 23, 1865. Mr. Thomas then returned home to the farm and resumed the pursuits of civil life.

On the 22d of March, 1866, Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Maggie Hawk, a native of Pennsylvania, born July 23, 1846, a daughter of Daniel F. and Harriet (Martin) Hawk, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, the former born November 24, 1798, and the latter October 14, 1817. They were married in Pennsylvania and became the parents of eleven children. Henry, born December 23, 1839, was a member of the same company of the Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, to which Mr. Thomas belonged, and was wounded in the battle of Missionary Ridge, dying ten days later, on the 5th of December, 1863. Mr. Thomas remained with him all night on the battlefield and went with him to the hospital, remaining with him until life departed. He then reported the death to the bereaved parents and thus he became acquainted with the sister, whom he afterward made his wife. Robert Hawk, the second of the family, born March 11, 1842, served in the Civil war with the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and died at Memphis, Tennessee, July 7, 1865, from fever contracted while in the service. Mary, born January 9, 1844, is the wife of James Y. McCall, who for about sixteen years has been supervisor of Newton township and is one of the leading and valued citizens of that locality. They have two children, George and Hattie. Mrs. Maggie Thomas is the next of the family. Hiram S., born April 29, 1850, married Clara McCall and they had six children, Hugh, Lorena, Maud, John and Annie, all living; and Ross, deceased. Their home is in Morrison. Arthur D. Hawk, born September 11, 1852, and now living at Pomona, California, married Belle Booth and they have four children, Edward, Belle and Beulah, twins, and Arthur. John S. Hawk, born October 26, 1857, and now following farming in Newton township, wedded Lizzie Blean and they have four children, Arthur, William, Pearl and Hattie. Joseph C. Hawk, born April 26, 1860, and now a farmer of Fenton township, married Cora Turney and they have five children, Maggie, Edna and Eva, twins, John Howard and Della J., twins. The father, Daniel F. Hawk, went with his family to Rock Island county in 1857 and for one year operated a rented farm there. He then bought a farm of two hundred acres in Newton township, Whiteside county, where he remained until his death, which occurred February 2, 1877, while his wife passed away July 3, 1892.

Soon after his marriage, Francis M. Thomas purchased a farm of eighty acres in Mt. Pleasant township, on which he lived for twelve years. On this

farm his only child was born, Henry J. Thomas, whose natal day was October 14, 1867. After reaching manhood he wedded Ola McNutt, who was born near Holton, Kansas, October 11, 1871, and died June 24, 1906, leaving four children, E. Wayne, George Lee, Marguerite and Clara L. Since his marriage Henry J. Thomas has lived upon the old homestead of his grandfather Hawk, which was purchased by his father, F. M. Thomas, in 1877. It was upon that place that the subject of this review resided until his retirement from active life and his removal to Morrison in December, 1889. He was a successful farmer, who carefully developed his property and cultivated his fields. He removed to the city in order to give his son the educational advantages there offered and for two years the son was also a student in a college at Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

Mr. Thomas has always enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his neighbors and friends. His honesty, faithfulness and good judgment have been recognized by them and they have selected him to settle two large estates and several minor ones. While residing in Newton township he served as school treasurer for seven years. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party and of its principles he is a stalwart and unswerving advocate. For many years he was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife and his son also belong, the latter having served for several years as superintendent of the Sunday school in Newton township. Mr. Thomas has been extremely active in church and Sunday school work and his labors have been effective and far-reaching. For many years he has served as trustee and steward of the church and he furnished the means to educate a young Japanese for evangelistic work, meeting his expenses during the eight years required to properly fit him for work in his native land. Mr. Thomas belongs to Alpheus Clark Post, G. A. R. His entire life, honorable and upright in every phase, commends him to the confidence and esteem of those who know him and proves that prosperity and an honored name may be won simultaneously.

LEWIS MARINE.

Lewis Marine deserves much credit for the orderly progression which has characterized his business life. Starting out on his own account at the age of sixteen years without a dollar, as a result of his own efforts he has become the owner of a valuable farming property of one hundred and sixty acres. He is yet a young man, his birth having occurred in Bureau county, Illinois, May 11, 1879. His parents were Joseph and Minnie (Yonk) Marine, who were natives of Germany and came to America in the early '60s, first settling in the state of New York, where they resided for a year. They afterward spent two years in Ohio, where the father followed farming prior to his removal to Bureau county, Illinois, where he purchased land and carried on general agricultural pursuits. He died in 1895 and is still survived by the mother of our subject, who is living in Bureau county, Illinois.

Mr. Marine was twice married and by his first union had two children: John, a resident of Henry county, Illinois; and Joseph, deceased. The children of the second marriage were eleven in number but four have now passed away. The others are: Charles, of Henry county, Illinois; Freda, the wife of Henry Young, also of Henry county; Elsie, the wife of W. M. Franks, a resident of Whiteside county; Lewis, whose name introduces this review; Amel, who makes his home in Bureau county, this state; and Frank and W. M., also residing in Bureau county.

Lewis Marine was reared under the parental roof, pursued a public-school education and early became familiar with the duties and labors of the farmer. When sixteen years of age he began providing for his own support as a farm hand and that he was faithful and capable is indicated by the fact that he remained in the employ of one man for four years. He then married Miss Anna Anderson, also a native of Bureau county, and a daughter of Charles and Mina Anderson, who were natives of Sweden, whence they came to America in 1870, settling first in Whiteside county, Illinois, after which they removed to Bureau county. The father there purchased land and carried on farming until the death of his wife, which occurred in 1895. He still survives and now makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Marine. The mother is one of four children and by her marriage has become the mother of two sons and a daughter, Irving, Raymond and Lowrey.

Mr. Marine now owns one hundred and thirty acres of land on section 32, Prophetstown township, and makes a study of the raising and feeding of stock, which branch of his business is returning to him a good income. His farm is well improved and he is bringing it under a good state of cultivation. While his business interests claim the greater part of his time and energies he is yet never remiss in the duties of citizenship and on the contrary stands for advancement and improvement in many lines. Politically he is a democrat and both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

WILLIAM H. SPRINKLE.

William H. Sprinkle, successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits, and making his home upon his present farm on section 15, Fenton township, for more than a quarter of a century, was born on Dutch Bottoms, Phoenix township, Henry county, Illinois, October 7, 1865. His parents were Jonathan and Katharine (Miller) Sprinkle, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Following their marriage they lived for some time in Henry county, and in 1882 the mother came to Whiteside county, settling upon the farm which is now the home of her son, William. She made the journey here with her family. Mrs. Sprinkle died May 22, 1905, in the sixty-fourth year of her age. Her family numbered four children: William H.; Charles Sherman, who died November 15, 1870, at the age of two years; Louise Jane, the wife of P. H. Likes, of Tampico; and Leonard C., of Walnut.

William H. Sprinkle was a youth of about seventeen years when he arrived in Whiteside county. His youth up to that time had been spent in

Henry county, where he was reared to the occupation of farming, while the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. He has now made his home in Fenton township for twenty-six years, and is engaged in farming seventy-three acres of the home place on section 15, Fenton township, adjoining the village of Fenton. He also cultivates one hundred and sixty acres on section 27 of the same township, and is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres in Deaf Smith county, Texas. His life is characterized by untiring diligence and persistency of purpose, and the years are bringing him a measure of success that is well merited. He is diligent and persistent, honorable and straightforward, and his record has therefore won for him the respect and regard of all who know him.

Mr. Sprinkle was married in 1889 to Miss Bertha A. Crocker, who was born in Fenton township, October 7, 1870, a daughter of John W. and Amarette (Hill) Crocker, who are now residents of Morrison. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sprinkle have been born two children: John Addison and Carrie D. Mr. Sprinkle exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, and is connected with the Mystic Workers of Fenton. Although there have been no exciting chapters in his life record, his history is that of a man who has been loyal to his duty in his various relations, and who in the business world has found ample opportunity for the exercise of his talents and industry—his dominant qualities.

GEORGE E. THOMPSON.

George E. Thompson makes his home in Erie, but is still the owner of a valuable farm of five hundred acres in the township of Fenton, and is associated with his son in its management and improvement, and also in the business of extensively breeding and raising fine stock. He was born in Vermont April 5, 1856, his parents being S. A. and Elizabeth (Harrington) Thompson, natives of Ohio and of Vermont, respectively. Removing westward to Whiteside county during the early period of its development, the father purchased land and began the cultivation of a new farm, thus contributing in substantial measure to the early upbuilding and improvement of the county. Unto him and his wife were born two sons and a daughter: George E., of this review; Jennie, now deceased; and Reuben A., who is living in Hillsdale, Illinois. The father is yet a resident of Erie, but the mother passed away in 1890.

George E. Thompson remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, and in the public school acquired his education. He was trained in all departments of farm work, and after he had reached adult age he rented the old homestead of nine hundred acres, which he continued to cultivate for twelve years. On the expiration of that period he invested in two hundred acres of land in Erie township, and improved this property, residing thereon for nine years, then sold it, and with the added capital which he had gained during the intervening period, he bought five hundred acres

of the old homestead and took up his abode thereon, turning his attention in a large measure to the live-stock business. He made a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle and full blooded Clydesdale horses, and handled some of the finest stock produced in this county. He left the farm in 1907 and removed to Erie, where he now owns a fine residence, but he and his son still carry on the farm and are raising full blooded cattle and horses. Just before leaving the farm he disposed at public sale a large number of thoroughbred Clydesdale horses, including some of the finest stock produced in this part of the state. The cattle which he handles are also of high grades, and he always has on hand for sale full blooded male cattle and full blooded Clydesdale horses.

Mr. Thompson was married on the 29th of November, 1877, to Miss Nellie Eddy, who was born in Erie township, this county, in 1859, a daughter of York Eddy, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Thompson was one of a family of ten children, and by her marriage has become the mother of four children: Willie E., who is now upon the home farm, and is his father's partner in its operation and development; Edith J., the wife of Fred C. Neary, of Fenton township; Hattie E., the wife of Cornelius McCarthy, of Chicago, Illinois; and Rena E., at home.

The parents attend and support the Baptist church, and are interested in all measures and movements for the upbuilding and welfare of the community. Mr. Thompson has served as school director for ten years, and believes in maintaining excellent schools as a preparation for the young for life's practical and responsible duties. He has been justice of the peace for four years and constable for four years, and his official service is always characterized by the utmost devotion to the public welfare. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being connected with Lodge No. 667, and has filled all of the chairs excepting that of the East. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp and is in thorough sympathy with the principles and purposes of these orders, which recognize the common brotherhood of mankind and individual obligation. He has long been regarded as one of the prominent, enterprising and progressive business men of the county, and although he is now partially retired from active life, he is still interested with his son in the management of the valuable farm of five hundred acres which he owns, and from which he derives an excellent annual income.

MALLORY S. HILL.

Mallory S. Hill, now living retired, was one of the extensive and prosperous farmers of Prophetstown township, and was also equally well known as a successful dairyman. He is still the owner of valuable farming property of three hundred and eighty acres, from which he derives an excellent annual income. On the same farm, and in the same room which is now his sleeping apartment, Mallory S. Hill was born, September 30, 1857, and comes of New England ancestry.

His parents, William and Ann (Smith) Hill, were both natives of Vermont, and in 1835 traveled across the country to Whiteside county, Illinois. This was before the era of railroad transportation, and the journey was made with team and wagon, as was common at that time. It was a long and tedious journey, over roads which were often in poor condition, while at times the streams had to be forded, as in sparsely settled districts no bridges had been built. Few, indeed, were the homes to be found in Whiteside county at that early period. The native timber was still uncut, nor was the sod broken on the prairies, but the land, rich in its possibilities, awaited the awakening touch of the agriculturist to convert it from its wild state into productive farms, which are now a great source of wealth to the state. William Hill secured land, and for many years, while meeting the hardships and trials of pioneer life, was busily engaged in converting his place into a productive farm. He continued a resident of this county until his death, which occurred in 1904, at the age of eighty-four years, while his wife passed away in 1905. They were prominent pioneer people, well meriting the esteem in which they were uniformly held. Their family numbered eight children: Hester, deceased; J. Q., a resident of Peoria, Illinois; W. S., who makes his home in Canton, Kansas; Truman, who has passed away; Mallory S., of this review; Stella, the wife of F. H. Johns, and a resident of Sterling; and two who died in infancy. The father was a stanch republican from the time of the organization of the party, and took an active and helpful interest in its local work. He was numbered among the progressive men who came from New England to enjoy the opportunities of the new west, and as the years passed assisted largely in the material work of the county.

Mallory S. Hill was reared on the old homestead where his birth occurred, and which is yet his place of residence. He acquired a common school education, and as his years and strength increased aided more and more largely in the work of the farm. When nineteen years of age he rented a part of the old homestead and continued its cultivation for about nine years. In that time he saved sufficient capital to enable him to purchase land, and bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 8, and forty acres on section 5, Prophetstown township. Still prosperity attended him, and at a later date he added one hundred and eighty acres, so that he is now the owner of an extensive farm of three hundred and eighty acres, all of which is finely improved. For years he was active in the work of the fields, personally attending to the plowing, planting and harvesting, and his sound judgment and practical methods were manifest in the excellent success which he gained. In addition to tilling the soil, he also conducted a dairy business, and his herd of cattle were of the highest breed of Holstein stock. Now he is retired from the active work of the farm, which he leaves to others, but he still maintains his residence upon the old homestead, which is endeared to him through the associations of his boyhood and youth, as well as his later manhood.

On the 27th of March, 1878, Mr. Hill was married to Miss Mary Lancaster, a native of this county, and a daughter of Charles and Sarah Lancaster, of whom mention is made in connection with the sketch of Millard Hill, on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Mallory S. Hill have but one

daughter, Maysie, now the wife of H. C. Hull, who is operating her father's farm. Mr. and Mrs. Hill are valued and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, with which they have long been connected, and Mr. Hill belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp of Prophetstown. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise he has supported at the polls the men and measures of the republican party, but has never sought nor desired office, preferring, during his active business career, to concentrate his energies upon his farming interests, whereby he attained the gratifying measure of success which has now placed him far beyond want, and among the men of affluence of the county. Straightforward in his business affairs, he well deserves mention in this volume because of his personal traits of character, and also by reason of the fact that he is a representative of one of its oldest families.

CYRUS EMERY.

Cyrus Emery, whose influence is ever found on the side of reform, progress and improvement, has valuable property holdings in Prophetstown and Hume townships, Whiteside county, the father and son, Charles E., owning three hundred and twenty-five acres. He bought the property where he now lives in 1856, thus becoming owner of a dwelling which was built by Elias C. Hutchinson, one of the earliest settlers of this part of the state. Mr. Emery was born in Sanford, York county, Maine, June 3, 1830, his parents being Thomas Salter and Hannah (Willard) Emery, who were also natives of Sanford, Maine, and spent their entire lives in the Pine Tree state. The father was a farmer by occupation and thus provided for his family. His political allegiance was given to the Whig party. He died very suddenly, at the comparatively early age of forty-nine years, while his wife reached the advanced age of eighty-four years and ever remained true to his memory, never marrying again. By the two marriages there were thirteen children, of whom Cyrus was the eleventh in order of birth and is now the only survivor. He has in his possession an interesting history of the Emery family, giving data from 1590 until 1890, and by desire of his children he has written from memory the reminiscences of his youth, containing fifty thousand words, which he has typewritten and bound in book form.

Mr. Emery remained at the place of his nativity until about twenty years of age and was on the home farm until fourteen years of age, when he began learning the tinner's trade. He followed that pursuit during the greater part of the time until 1866, when he disposed of his interests in that line, and in more recent years has concentrated his energies largely upon the improvement of his land. He was married on the fifth of June, 1853, to Miss Caroline B. Trafton, who was born in Maine, June 16, 1833, a daughter of Colonel John and Lucinda (Clark) Trafton. The following year he came with his wife to Whiteside county, Illinois, and on the 1st of October, 1854, opened the first hardware store and tinshop in Prophetstown. There was no

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MRS. CYRUS EMERY



CYRUS EMERY

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railroad through this part of the county at the time and all of his stock had to be hauled from Geneseo, twenty-two miles away. The new enterprise proved profitable, however, and year by year, with the growth of the village and the surrounding country, his patronage increased, the business becoming a large and important one for a town of this size. He also carried a full line of stoves. He continued in the trade successfully until 1865, when he sold out and has since managed his agricultural interests. In the meantime, in 1865, he had purchased one hundred ninety-seven and a half acres of land, at that time situated on sections 19 and 30, township 20, range 6, Hume township. It was raw prairie when it came into his possession, but he at once began to cultivate and improve it and his labors through the passing years have transformed it into a valuable farm property. He also owns thirty-four acres on sections 17, 20 and 5, township 20, range 5, Prophetstown township, still retaining both properties, while he and his son Charles have three hundred and twenty-five acres together. His present home is one of the old landmarks of the county, having for more than a half century been a mute witness of the changes which have occurred and of the county's growth and substantial improvement. On retiring from commercial pursuits in 1865 Mr. Emery concentrated his attention upon the improvement of his land and also gives much of his time to reading and study, finding great pleasure and happiness in his books. He has read broadly, thinks deeply and is a man of wide general information.

In 1857 Mr. Emery was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, who died in Prophetstown on the 24th of April. On the 19th of July, following, he was again married, his second union being with Martha Ann Rose, who was born June 14, 1832, in Limington, York county, Maine, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Edgecomb) Rose. She was the eldest of a family of twelve children and at Dover, New Hampshire, she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Emery. She was a most motherly woman and her good traits of heart and mind won her the friendship and love of all with whom she came in contact. Her kind heart responded readily to a tale of sorrow or distress and her helping hand was extended to many in need and trouble. She was energetic and capable to a marked degree and her best traits of character were ever reserved for her own fireside. She was devoted to the welfare of her husband and children and the two motherless little girls of her husband's first marriage found in her a true mother, who showed no partiality to her own children. Unto Mr. Emery and his first wife there were born two daughters. Eva Lucinda is now the wife of Charles H. Dye, of Oregon City, Oregon, where he is practicing law. Mrs. Dye is the renowned author of McLoughlin and Old Oregon, The Conquest, McDonald of Oregon, and a common school text-book now used in all the common schools of Oregon and this through full legal sanction and authority. She has received most favorable comment from the press throughout the country, the volume, McDonald of Oregon, being interesting from the historical as well as the fiction side, but this, however, would apply to all the writings of this renowned author. Dr. Caroline E. Carley, the second daughter, is the wife of Dr. James O. R. Carley, of Winchester, Kansas. Both are physicians in active practice. Unto Mr. Emery

and his second wife were born six children. Cora Lillian, the wife of John A. Reed, of Rock Island, is a graduate of the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago of the class of 1887 and is now enjoying a large practice. Charles Ellsworth is a resident farmer of Prophetstown township; Florence May is living with her father. Two daughters died at the age of five years and one son at the age of thirteen months. The eldest daughter, Mrs. Eva Dye, is a graduate of Oberlin College and her husband also completed a course in that school in the same class. Mr. Emery certainly has every reason to be proud of his family, as all are now occupying honorable positions in life and three daughters have gained distinction in literary and professional circles. The death of Mrs. Martha Emery occurred in Prophetstown, November 3, 1907, when she had reached the age of seventy-five years, four months and seventeen days. In 1859 she became a spiritualist and medium, being both clairvoyant and clairaudient. She was also a member of the Daughters of Rebekah and of the Eastern Star and the Woman's Relief Corps. On the 19th of July, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Emery celebrated their golden wedding, which was an occasion of much joy, not only to the worthy couple but to all who participated therein. She had many friends and all who knew her loved and esteemed her, so that her death was the occasion of deep and wide-spread regret.

Mr. Emery is also identified with spiritualism, with which he became connected in 1858. Since 1876 he has been a devoted member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The temperance cause finds in him a stalwart champion and he has been identified with the prohibition party since the beginning of the movement and with one exception has continuously voted for its party leaders, while in his community he has been very active in the anti-license campaigns. He has served as school director of Prophetstown for twelve years and was clerk of the board for several years. He was also justice of the peace for one term and for two terms was a member of the town council. He has been most faithful and loyal in the performance of his official duties and in every relation of life has been found to be a man loyal to his ideals and his principals, standing unequivocally for what he believes to be right and thus commanding the respect and admiration of even those who differ from him in his views. Mr. Emery has a reputation of the highest commercial integrity. It is truthfully said of him that he owes no man, and an overdue bill has never had to be presented to him.

LAFAYETTE TRIPP STOCKING.

LaFayette Tripp Stocking, for twenty-five years a member of the Whiteside county bar, where he has long since attained a position of distinction, was born at Pine Plains, Dutchess county, New York, December 25, 1857. His father, R. V. Stocking, was also born at Pine Plains, and is of English ancestry and of Revolutionary stock. He was a mechanic, and following his removal to Illinois in 1856, settled at Prophetstown, where he first conducted



HOME OF CYRUS EMERY. BUILT IN 1856.



HOME OF CHARLES E. EMERY

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a blacksmith shop, while later he was connected with the plow works. He is an expert artisan, displaying marked ingenuity and skill in the use of tools. He removed from Prophetstown to Morrison in 1865, and conducted a blacksmith shop until 1873, when he merged his business into that of a stock company, which took the title of the Morrison Agricultural Works, manufacturing the Morrison stock cutters and other mechanical devices, but principally the Morrison wagon. Mr. Stocking was the principal stockholder and president of the company. He was very successful in his undertakings, and his well directed labors and unflinching diligence brought to him a competency that in 1884 enabled him to retire from active business and enjoy well merited rest. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted, on the 2d of December, 1861, at Prophetstown, joining Company K of the Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. On account of disability he was mustered out July 3, 1862, at St. Louis, at that time holding the rank of first sergeant. He participated in the battle of Shiloh, and is now a member of Alpheus Clark Post, G. A. R. He is a man of excellent physique and fine personal appearance, being five feet and eleven inches in height and well proportioned. He was a fine rifle shot and an expert in athletics. His political belief was in harmony with the principles of the whig party in his early manhood, and upon the organization of the republican party he became one of its stalwart advocates. In community affairs he has always taken a deep and helpful interest, and his labors have been an important element in the growth and progress of this part of the county. He was at different times one of the officers of the town of Morrison; in 1868 was president of the town board, while the previous year he served as a member of the board. Later he served as one of the aldermen of the city of Morrison, and he exercised his official prerogatives in support of all that contributed to the general good. He stands well among his neighbors, and his friends are many. He wedded Mary Keefer, who was also born at Pine Plains, New York, her natal day being February 11, 1838. She is of Holland Dutch descent, and is still living in Morrison. Their family numbered three children: Lewis, who died at the age of thirteen years; George, who died in infancy; and LaFayette T.

Although born in the Empire state, Mr. Stocking of this review was reared in this county and attended the Morrison schools, being graduated from the high school with the class of 1875. Determining upon the practice of law as a life work, in the fall of 1876 he entered the Albany Law School, and was graduated therefrom in the fall of 1877. Later he returned to Morrison and was admitted to practice his profession at the bar of Illinois, and in the federal courts. He began practice in Morrison, and has remained here to the present time, enjoying marked success in the field of his chosen endeavor. Earnest effort, close application and the exercise of his native talents have won him prestige as a lawyer at a bar which has numbered many able and prominent representatives.

On the 11th of February, 1879, Mr. Stocking was married to Miss Kate Guffin, who was born in Morrison in 1860, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Stiles) Guffin. Her father was one of the pioneer merchants of Morrison, coming from New York to Whiteside county about 1856. His wife removed

from Pennsylvania to the middle west with her parents, Richard and Maria T. (Burrows) Stiles. Her father established the first bank in Morrison, known as the Stiles & McMaster Bank, and afterward purchased by Leander Smith and A. J. Jackson, who organized it into The First National Bank of Morrison. Mr. and Mrs. Stocking have one daughter, Lena Keefer, who was born in Morrison, July 29, 1880, and is the wife of Walter Graves Baker, an attorney at law of East Moline, Illinois. His parents were Anson and Anna Baker and his grandfather Oliver Baker, one of the pioneers of Whiteside county. Mrs. Lena Baker is a graduate of the Morrison high school of the class of 1899 and also spent two years as a student in the State University at Champaign. For three years she studied in the Chicago Kindergarten College and was graduated therefrom in 1904, and during one year of that time she also acted as an assistant in the Dewey school of kindergarten and other work at the Chicago University. She taught the kindergarten department in the McKinley school at Waterloo, Iowa, in 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. Stocking are well known socially in Morrison and the hospitality of their pleasant home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends. The zeal with which he has devoted his energies to his profession, the careful regard evinced for the interests of his clients and an assiduous and unrelaxing attention to all the details of his cases have brought him a large business and made him successful in its conduct.

JOSEPH E. HARRISON.

Joseph E. Harrison is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county and his memory bears the impress of many events which have shaped the history and molded the destiny in this part of the state. He was born in Genesee township, September 25, 1849, and in the paternal line is of English descent. His father, Mark Harrison, was born in England in 1804 and came to America when twenty-one years of age, landing at Quebec, Canada, where he followed the trade of a cotton worker in the mills. In 1832 he went to Chicago, where he met John A. Cook, the man in whose honor Cook county was named. Mr. Cook offered him twenty-five dollars per month to drive a stage from Chicago to Rock Island and would pay him in town lots that are now within the city limits of the metropolis. Mr. Harrison refused the offer, however, and made his way to Fulton, Illinois, where he had purchased five lots without seeing them. After looking over his property he traded them for a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 34, Genesee township. He then started back to Chicago and on his way met a man of the name of H. Brink, with whom he hired out and worked on what was then known as the Empire dam. Later, however, he entered a claim in Genesee township and took up his abode thereon, making it his home until his death. He was one of the first settlers of Genesee township, arriving here in 1836. The Black Hawk war had been fought only four years before and there were still many traces of

Indian occupancy throughout this portion of the state. In fact, Indians yet frequently visited the settlements, while in the forests and over the prairies roamed deer and other wild game.

Mark Harrison was married to Miss Mary Taylor, who was born in North Carolina, near Norfolk, Virginia, in 1803, and they began their domestic life with a cash capital of fifteen dollars and a half. They cooked and ate their "wedding feast" in their own log cabin, their table being formed of a split slab, into which long pins were driven to serve as legs. They sat on three-legged stools and their bed was formed of a tick filled with straw. Mrs. Harrison lost her parents when very young and later she became house-keeper for her brother, who was a widower with two children. He sold his property in Norfolk, Virginia, and prepared to move westward but fell a victim of the cholera epidemic and died within a few days. Mrs. Harrison then came to Illinois, locating near Hennepin. The journey of fifteen hundred miles was made by wagon across the country, over roads which were often in very poor condition. Mrs. Harrison, however, did not ride, but walked the entire distance by the side of the wagon. During her early married life she experienced many hardships and privations incident to the settlement of the frontier. There was little money in circulation and farm products brought very low prices. At one time Mr. Harrison sold wheat for twenty-five cents per bushel, while fat cattle brought five dollars each at Galena. The farmers depended upon what they raised for a livelihood and nearly everything that was used in the household, largely including clothing and furniture, was made upon the place. As the years passed, however, and the family prospered they were enabled to enjoy many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. Mr. Harrison reached the age of seventy-three years and passed away in 1877, the county thus losing one of its earliest settlers and respected farmers. His wife survived him for eleven years and passed away in 1888. They were the parents of five children: Mrs. Alice Pitman, now residing in Greene county, Iowa; Henry, who is living in Genesee township; Mrs. Sarah Lynch, a widow, residing in Genesee township; Joseph E., of this review; and one deceased.

The early experiences of Joseph Harrison were such as usually fall to the lot of the farm boy whose parents are in somewhat limited circumstances, but he possessed the energy and determination that leads to successful accomplishment. He rendered assistance in the farm work as time passed and in the public schools acquired his education. On the 23d of September, 1873, he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Peugh, a daughter of Charles B. and Janè (Louden) Peugh. Mrs. Harrison was born April 14, 1854, in Genesee township and was one of a family of thirteen children. By her marriage she has become the mother of six children: Lillie B., now deceased; Mary Iola, the wife of James Patch, of Kansas; Bertha and Charles B., twins, the former the wife of Jacob Garwick, a resident of Iowa; Charles B., living in Kansas; Cynthia, the wife of Fred Overholser, of Coleta; and Alice, at home.

Following his marriage, Joseph E. Harrison engaged in farming the old homestead property until his father's death, when he purchased the farm,

comprising one hundred and twenty acres in Genesee township. In 1903 he retired and removed to Coleta, where he now lives, but for a long period was actively associated with agricultural interests and through his well directed labors and unfaltering enterprise gained a place among the men of affluence in the community.

In his political views Mr. Harrison is a republican and has served as supervisor of his township, while for thirty years he has been a school trustee and has held nearly every other office in the county. He is interested in the cause of education and is a champion of many progressive measures. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and both he and his wife are members of the Christian church, in the work of which they are deeply interested, while Mr. Harrison is serving as one of the church elders. His religious faith has characterized his entire life, making him an honest man, reliable in all business transactions and considerate of the welfare and interests of others. Both he and his wife belong to old families of the county and both have for more than a half century been witnesses of the changes which have here occurred, Mr. Harrison having seen the growth and development of this section of the state for almost six decades.

JOHN OLSEN.

John Olsen is a splendid example of the thrift and enterprise which is so characteristic of the Swedish race, for in America, where opportunity is open to the ambitious young man, he has worked his way up from a very humble beginning until he is now classed among the substantial agriculturists of Whiteside county, owning in Prophetstown township a finely improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres, all of which has been acquired through his own persistent and well directed labor.

Mr. Olsen was born in Schoening, Sweden, April 19, 1858, a son of Ole and Bangda (Parsons) Olsen, whose family numbered seven children, of whom five are living. With the exception of John all still reside in their native country, these being Jens, Neils, Angre and Johannah. The father was in very humble financial circumstances, so that it became necessary for the son at the very early age of eight years to provide for his own support. He wandered over various sections of his native land, doing any work that would yield him an honest living. During this time he formed a deep attachment for three companions, two of whom, after reaching years of maturity emigrated to the United States and also induced Mr. Olsen to join them here.

In 1878, when he had reached the age of twenty years, Mr. Olsen was married to Miss Johannah Anderson, a daughter of Andrew Munson and Cecelia (Stestrom) Anderson, who were likewise residents of Sweden. The father is now deceased but the mother still survives and has always lived in her native country. Mrs. Olsen also has two sisters and one brother in Sweden, while one brother, Erick Anderson, lives in Henry county, and a sister, Mrs. Edla Johnson, resides in Prophetstown.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Olsen remained in their native land for a decade, after which, in 1888, they emigrated to the United States. He at once made his way to Illinois, stopping for a few days in Princeton. He then continued his journey to Whiteside county, where he has since made his home. He spent the first year working on a farm by the month, in order to provide for the support of himself and family. He then invested in eighty acres of swamp land in Tampico township, and although his friends considered it a very unwise investment, it proved to be quite the contrary, for after he had improved the tract he sold it for double what he paid for it. He then rented land during the succeeding five years, or until 1899, when he purchased his present farm, comprising one hundred and twenty acres, which he has also improved and made of it a valuable property. He is here engaged in raising the various cereals best adapted to soil and climate and is also engaged in raising stock to some extent, keeping on hand thirteen cows and from ten to twelve head of horses. He is here meeting with good success, which seems all the more remarkable from the fact that in his youth he was deprived of all educational advantages, so that what he has accomplished in life has been entirely owing to his good business judgment and through hard, persistent labor.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Olsen has been blessed with seven children: Mrs. Tilda Borup; Mary, the wife of Enoch Anderson, of Prophets-town township, by whom she has two daughters and one boy; Aleda; and Ola, Cecelia, Frans, Otto and Evaline, all yet under the parental roof. Mr. Olsen gives his political support to the republican party and he and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. He is ever found loyal to the best interests of his adopted country and is alive to the opportunities which this country offers, for, as stated, his success is by no means the result of fortunate circumstances but has come as the result of his own well directed labor and the assistance of his estimable wife, and no citizen of Whiteside county is more worthy to be called "a self-made man" than is Mr. Olsen.

FRANK QUADE.

Frank Quade, who operates two hundred and forty acres of valuable land in Erie township, making a specialty of raising and feeding stock, was born in Bromberg, Germany, on the 28th of November, 1847, a son of Stanford and Antonica Quade, both of whom passed away in the fatherland. They had a family of five children, Frank Quade of this review being the only one now living.

In the common schools of his native land Mr. Quade acquired an education and after he had attained his majority he served for three years as a soldier in the army, in accordance with the laws of Germany. Having heard many favorable reports of the broader business opportunities in the new world, he crossed the Atlantic to America in 1872, locating in Whiteside

county, Illinois, where he was employed as a farm hand for two years. He then engaged in the operation of a rented farm for four years and on the expiration of that period, having acquired capital sufficient to invest in land of his own, he purchased two hundred and forty acres on sections 14, 23 and 26, Erie township, where he has since resided. As the years have gone by he has brought his land under a high state of cultivation, the fields annually returning golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon them. In addition to the work of general farming he makes a specialty of raising and feeding stock and in both branches of his business has met with a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity, having long been recognized as one of the enterprising and successful agriculturists of the community.

In 1879 Mr. Quade was united in marriage to Miss Ida Johnson, who was born in Sweden in 1863, a daughter of Albert and Louisa (Carlstead) Johnson, who emigrated to America in 1868. On arriving in the new world they first located at Moline, Illinois, where the father worked as a common laborer and later purchased land in Whiteside county. His death occurred on the 12th of November, 1901, but the mother is still living on the old homestead farm in Erie township. Their family numbered six children, and by her marriage Mrs. Quade has become the mother of five children, namely: John O., deceased; George F., an agriculturist of Erie township; Louisa A., the wife of Charles Moody, of Erie township; and Charles and Ida, both at home.

In his political views Mr. Quade is a stalwart democrat and has served as school director for three years, the cause of education ever finding in him a helpful friend. He is a member of the Home Fraternal League at Erie and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church, while his wife is identified with the Lutheran denomination. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought, which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man, and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward. Both he and his wife are well and favorably known here by reason of the long period of their residence in this county and also because of the honorable and upright principles which have actuated them in all life's relations.

HENRY LEE RECTOR.

Henry Lee Rector is one of the few remaining veterans of the Civil war who fought for the preservation of the Union during the darkest hour in our country's history. He has always been loyal in his citizenship and whether upon the field of battle or in the pursuit of peace he has faithfully supported what he has believed to be for the best interests of the country at large. Throughout his business career he has devoted his time and energies to general farming.



MR. AND MRS. H. L. RECTOR

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He was born in Savannah, Wayne county, New York, April 5, 1830, a son of William and Mary (Van Auken) Rector, who were natives of New York, but spent their last days in Michigan. Their family numbered four sons: Henry L.; John, deceased; Robert D., who served for four years with the Eleventh Michigan Cavalry in the Civil war and is now living in Portland, Oregon; and Anson, whose home is in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Aaron Van Auken, one of the heroes of the American army in the Revolutionary war. Mr. Rector is descended from old Holland Dutch ancestry of New York, the family having been represented in America, however, for many generations.

Henry L. Rector was about ten years of age when his parents removed from Wayne county, New York, to Onondaga county, that state, settling near Skaneateles, where they lived for six years. They then returned to Wolcott, Wayne county, where Mr. Rector, of this review, continued until he reached the age of twenty-two years. He afterward went to Alamo, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, with his parents and lived there for fifteen years, subsequent to which time he spent three years in Missouri. In 1872 he arrived in Whiteside county, Illinois, and has resided since 1875 upon his present farm of eighty acres, situated on section 2, Fenton township. His entire life has been devoted to general agricultural pursuits and whatever success he has achieved or enjoyed is attributable entirely to his own labors.

During the period of the Civil war, Mr. Rector responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting from Kalamazoo, Michigan, as a member of Company A, Thirteenth Michigan Infantry, under Captain Towne and Colonel Culver. The regiment was assigned to duty with the Army of the Cumberland and continued with that great military division until the close of the war. Mr. Rector marched with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea, participated in a number of important engagements, and afterward took part in the grand review in Washington, the most celebrated military pageant ever seen on the western hemisphere.

When the war was over, Mr. Rector, with a creditable military record, returned to his home and family. He was married on the 4th of July, 1855, to Miss Lodema Albright, of Savannah, New York, who was born in 1832. She was a daughter of Peter and Hannah (Karncross) Albright, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rector have been born two sons and a daughter. Lily, the second in order of birth, died at the age of nine years. William P., the oldest son, is living in Wayne county, New York. Fred resides upon the old homestead and operates the farm. He was born February 1, 1867, in Michigan and was married in South Dakota to Miss Sarah Cornell, whose birth occurred in Henry county, Ohio, December 14, 1866. Her parents were Joseph and Mary Ann (Macklin) Cornell. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rector have been born four children: Josephine, Arthur Lewis, Daisy Mary and Fred Cornell.

Mr. Rector gives his political allegiance to the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. For a third of a century he has lived upon the farm which is yet his home, while his residence in Whiteside county covers thirty-six years. Throughout this

entire period he has carried on general agricultural pursuits and though the work of the farm is now largely left to his son, he is yet interested in what is being accomplished in its improvement and development and he also keeps in touch with the general interests and current events of the day.

S. T. MILLER.

The well improved farm of one hundred and eighty-one acres, situated on section 21, Newton township, which is now owned and operated by S. T. Miller, was also the place of his birth, his natal day being August 11, 1848. His parents, Joseph and Elizabeth (Thompson) Miller, were both natives of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. The father was there reared and married, his first union being with Sarah Greer, by whom he had two children: Rachel Ann, the wife of Josiah Salehammer, a resident of Newton township; and Louise, deceased. He was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife on the 18th of September, 1836. He was again married, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth Thompson, and following their marriage they made their way westward, arriving in Whiteside county in 1840. The father here entered land from the government, making a claim in Newton township and thereon he built a log house, in which the family made their home for several years. He was an energetic, enterprising farmer and through his well directed labors met with gratifying prosperity, so that as time passed he added to his original possessions until he became the owner of six hundred and sixty-one acres of good farming land, all located in Newton township. The second marriage of Joseph Miller was blessed with seven children: Joseph E., deceased; Sarah, who resides in Whiteside county; John N., who has passed away; Mary J., of Whiteside county; S. T., whose name introduces this review; William M. and Moses F., who are also deceased. The wife and mother was called from this life on the 14th of October, 1867, and in 1869 Mr. Miller was married a third time, this union being with Mrs. Kate Ege, the widow of Joseph Ege. She bore the maiden name of Reisch and by her marriage to Mr. Ege became the mother of four children as follows: William L., deceased; Charles F., who resides in Newton township; Mary E., deceased; and Hettie B., a resident of California. By her marriage to Mr. Miller she has one son, Joseph A., who makes his home in Davenport, Iowa. The death of the father occurred September 2, 1884, and thus Whiteside county lost one of its well-to-do and highly respected citizens. He was well known here as a pioneer settler, for throughout more than four decades he was closely identified with the agricultural interests of this section of Whiteside county and at an early day bore his full share in the agricultural development and progress of this section of the state.

S. T. Miller, who is the third son and fifth child born of his father's second marriage, has always made his home on his present farm. He was early trained to the duties of farm labor, assisting his father during the periods of plowing, planting and harvesting, while in the winter months he

pursued his studies in the common schools, wherein he mastered the common branches of English learning. He is now the owner of one hundred and eighty-one acres of good farming land, constituting a portion of his father's possessions, this property having been entered by the latter from the government. It is improved with good barns and outbuildings and on the place there is also a good residence, which is occupied by our subject and his stepmother. Mr. Miller is engaged in carrying on general farming and also raises and feeds hogs, making a specialty of the latter field of activity. He is alert and energetic and is classed among the prosperous citizens of Newton township.

Mr. Miller's views on the temperance question are indicated by the stalwart support which he gives to the prohibition party. He has served as school director but aside from this has had no political aspirations, preferring to give his undivided time and attention to his private affairs. He possesses a genial, kindly nature and no native born son of Whiteside county has a wider circle of friends or is more highly esteemed than is Mr. Miller.

ALFRED NAPIER SEABER.

Among the soldier boys of the Union army is numbered Alfred Napier Seaber. He had been for almost four years on the tented fields of the south ere he attained his majority and in later years he has done effective service in public office, being now commissioner of permanent seat of government at Jefferson City, Missouri. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, November 22, 1845. His ancestors were gentlemen farmers of England, who lived not far from London and the family can be traced back to Sir John Seaber. His parents, John and Ellen (Judd) Seaber, natives of England, came to the United States immediately after their marriage and the father engaged in merchandising in Cleveland. Reared in that city, A. N. Seaber continued his education until he completed the high-school course by graduation. About 1870 he went to the mountains of Kentucky for the benefit of his health and was there identified with lumber interests and farming until 1881, when he received an appointment as clerk in the pension office at Washington, D. C. Two years were there passed in official service, after which he was sent to Missouri as special pension examiner, which position he acceptably filled for ten years. Ill health then forced him to resign, but he was again in public office when called by his fellow townsmen to represent them in the state senate.

Mr. Seaber served for nearly four years in the Union Army in the Civil war as a member of Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Ohio Volunteers and had not yet attained his majority when hostilities had ceased. He has always been deeply interested in politics from his boyhood days and is an inflexible adherent of republican principles. Aside from the offices which he filled through appointment he was elected to the state senate of Missouri in 1896 and his fidelity to the interests of his con-

stituents and the commonwealth at large led to his reelection, so that his incumbency in the upper house covered two terms. He afterward became editor of the *Kirksville (Missouri) Journal* and has been commissioner of permanent seat of government at Jefferson City since 1904.

On the 19th of January, 1871, Mr. Seaber was married to Miss Hannah Boling, of Leslie county, Kentucky, and their children are: Clara Belle, who was married June 8, 1899, to Dr. C. O. Deeming; Harry Garfield, who was married December 5, 1905, to Margaret Mitchell; Alice Daisy and Ivy Camille, at home.

Mr. Seaber belongs to the Masonic lodge, to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Grand Army of the Republic and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and at one time was captain of the Uniformed Rank of the Knights of Pythias. Since early manhood he has been a member of the Christian church. His interests have always extended to those questions which are of vital importance to the community and the country at large and his efforts, whether as a private citizen, a soldier or as an official, have always been directed in those channels through which flow the greatest good to the greatest number.

OWEN D. PITNEY.

Owen D. Pitney, a well known hotel proprietor of Tampico, was born in Conneaut, Ohio, July 5, 1838, a son of Eben B. and Mary (Snow) Pitney, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Erie county, Pennsylvania. The father came to Whiteside county in 1865, and passed away here. His family numbered five children, namely: Owen D., of this review; Macia, the deceased wife of William Watts; Helen, who became the wife of William Bryant, and resides in Chicago, Illinois; Julia, who first married Henry C. Dowe, and after his death wedded Joseph B. Greeman, of Tampico, Illinois; and one who has departed this life.

At the age of eighteen years Owen D. Pitney became a sailor, being thus engaged for six years, and came west in 1865, locating in Whiteside county, Illinois, where he operated rented land for several years. Subsequently he purchased eighty acres on section 28, Tampico township, which he improved and operated for four years, when he disposed of the property and rented a farm near Tampico for another period of four years. At the end of that time he bought a hotel in the village of Tampico, and conducted it for a few years, afterward removing to Brown county, South Dakota, where he homesteaded a farm. He built a sod house and remained in that state for two years, when he sold out and returned to Tampico, where he rented a tract of three hundred and twenty acres and engaged in its cultivation for three years. For the next four years he conducted a rented farm near Yorktown, after which he purchased the hotel in the village of Tampico, built an addition of several rooms and successfully conducted the hostelry for eight years, being at the same time engaged in the livery business. Subsequently he and his

wife leased their hotel and lived retired for seven years, but in 1906 again moved into the hotel, and have been successfully conducting the same ever since. Mr. Pitney is well known as a genial host, and does everything possible for the comfort and convenience of his guests. His sound judgment and capable business management have brought to him the gratifying measure of prosperity he now enjoys, and he is widely recognized as an enterprising and representative resident of the county.

On the 7th of July, 1856, Mr. Pitney was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Patterson, who was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, March 18, 1838, her parents being Freeman and Eldula (Root) Patterson, the former a native of Vermont, and the latter of New York. They had a family of eleven children, and both passed away in Erie county, Pennsylvania. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pitney were born five children: James F., of Denver, Colorado; Fred D., who was killed in a wreck while serving as a postal clerk for the government; Ida May, the wife of Jerd McKenzie, of Hume township; Henry, who is engaged in merchandising in Tampico, Illinois; and Frank, who is assistant cashier in the First National Bank at Sterling, Illinois. Mr. Pitney also has ten grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

In his fraternal relations our subject is a member of the Masonic Lodge, No. 655, and of the Modern Woodmen of America, at Tampico. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Tampico, and are well and favorably known throughout the community because of the long period of their residence here. Although he has reached the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, Mr. Pitney is still actively connected with business affairs, and in spirit and interests seems a much younger man.

JAMES R. ANDERSON.

In a history of the farming community of Whiteside county, mention should be made of James R. Anderson, who, living on section 12, Jordan township, is successfully engaged in farming, being one of the representative agriculturists of the community. He was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, twelve miles from Glasgow, January 5, 1842, a son of Robert and Marion (Walker) Anderson, who were also natives of Scotland and came to America in 1851. They were members of a company of eighteen people who crossed the Atlantic at that time, including the grandparents of our subject, his aunt and uncle, William and Elleson Anderson, James Barry, James Murray, Robert Pollock, James, Robert, Andrew and William Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Miller and Ellen Coates. All of the members of the party located in Whiteside or Ogle county, and of this number only two are now living: Mr. Anderson, of this review, and Ellen Coates, who resides west of the Elkhorn, in Whiteside county. The voyage across the Atlantic and the trip into the interior of the country was a very long one, for the methods of travel in those days were extremely slow as compared to the transportation facilities of the present. They left Scotland about the middle of May, and were six

weeks and three days on the ocean, arriving in New York in the early part of July. From the eastern metropolis they made their way up the Hudson river, then to Buffalo, on to Chicago by way of the Great Lakes, and by rail from Chicago to St. Charles, which was then the western terminus of the line. At that point the party hired teams and proceeded to Buffalo Grove. The grandparents' family numbered eight children: James, John, William, Robert, Elleson, Janette, David and Alexander. The second mentioned died in infancy. Of the others, David is the only one living. Janette died in Scotland, while the remaining members of the family who have passed away were buried on this side of the Atlantic, in the East Jordan cemetery, in this county. The grave of the paternal grandfather of our subject was the first one made in that cemetery.

Robert Anderson, with his family, settled near Polo, at Buffalo Grove, but about a year later located on what became the old family homestead, which is now the place of residence of James R. Anderson. Robert Anderson first purchased a quarter section of land from John H. Page at twenty dollars per acre. At that time it was all wild prairie, but with characteristic energy he placed it under a high state of cultivation, erected substantial buildings, and made other valuable improvements. As time went on he gradually added more land, buying forty acres from R. N. Roberts, eighty acres from Hiram Jenkins, forty acres from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and, thus from time to time adding to his property, he eventually became the owner of four hundred and forty acres in Whiteside and Ogle counties. He was not only a prosperous, but also a most respected citizen of Whiteside county, and one of its worthy pioneers, who assisted materially in the early advancement and growth of this part of the state. He died at the age of sixty-seven years, and his wife passed away when about eighty years of age.

James R. Anderson was about ten years of age when he came with his parents to the United States. In his native country he had the advantages of a common-school education, and after coming to America he remained at home, assisting in the operation of the farm until his father's death, when he assumed the entire management of the place, and has here resided continuously since. He has gradually added improvements, until today he possesses a fine farm, a beautiful home standing in the midst of attractive surroundings, the place being equipped with all modern accessories and conveniences. In his farm work Mr. Anderson has been very energetic and diligent, working on, day after day, in the improvement of a property that now returns to him an excellent financial income as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon the fields.

Mr. Anderson was married March 21, 1867, to Miss Isabella Cross, a daughter of George and Jane (Renwick) Cross, who were natives of Lanarkshire, Scotland. The father came first to America, in 1855, and the mother followed a year or so later, completing the trip on the first passenger train over the Illinois Central Railroad to Polo. They settled on a farm a short distance north of Polo, where their remaining days were passed, the father dying at the age of forty-four years, and the mother in 1893, at the age of sixty-eight years. The father was one of six children: Hugh, Robert, John,

George, James and Elizabeth, but George was the only one who ever came to America, the others all dying in Scotland. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Anderson were John and Anna (Baird) Cross, and the maternal grandparents were Gavin and Isabella (Scott) Renwick, both natives of Scotland, where they spent their entire lives. Mrs. Anderson had two brothers and four sisters: John, who died in Ogle county; Mrs. Isabella Anderson; Anna, living in Ogle; Gavin and George, who are living near Polo; Janette and Elizabeth, both deceased.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born eight children: Marion Jane, the wife of A. P. Shoemaker, a farmer residing in Ogle county; George Robert, who is living in Jordan township; Janette, the wife of Charles Scholl, a farmer living north of Eagle Point, in Carroll county, Illinois; John, who resides south of Penrose, in Jordan township; Elizabeth, Mabel, Rena and Clarence, all at home. The family are well known in the county, for the Andersons have been represented here for more than a half century, and the members of the household who now occupy the old homestead are held in high esteem throughout the community.

Mr. Anderson votes with the republican party, and has served as school director for eighteen years, the cause of education finding in him a warm and stalwart friend. He is a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal church, which has a Union house of worship on a corner of his farm. He has long been a trustee of the church and secretary of its board, and takes a deep and helpful interest in its work. His life has ever been upright and honorable, his actions manly and sincere, and as the years have gone by he has proven his right to be classed with the leading, trustworthy and respected agriculturists of Jordan township.

W. H. HARRISON.

W. H. Harrison, who is proprietor of a general mercantile store at Tampico, was born at Pratt Station, Fenton township, Whiteside county, December 20, 1856, and there resided for about fifteen years. His parents were Samuel and Betsy (Pope) Harrison, natives of Lincolnshire, England, where they were reared and married, coming thence to the United States about 1845. The father died in Fenton township when his son, W. H. Harrison, was but twelve years of age. The family continued to reside upon the home farm until our subject was about fifteen years of age, when he accompanied his mother to Vancouver Island, where he continued for about six years. His mother, however, remained at Vancouver and died about eighteen years ago. In the family were two sons but the younger, Herbert, died when about twenty-four years of age.

After the removal of the family to the northwest W. H. Harrison spent four years on a farm, one year in the mines and one year in a sawmill. He then returned to the United States, making his way back to Morrison, after which he secured farm labor in Whiteside county and thus provided for

his support for a number of years. In the fall of 1878 he took up his abode in Tampico, where he has since made his home. Here he began merchandising in connection with T. B. Davis under the firm style of Davis & Harrison. The partnership continued for a year and a half, after which Mr. Harrison purchased Mr. Davis' interest and has since been alone, conducting the store under his own name. For the conduct of his business he occupies a two-story brick building, a portion of which he erected. He utilizes the entire building in the conduct of his store, carrying a large and well selected line of general goods and receiving a liberal patronage in recognition of his straightforward business methods, his reasonable prices and his efforts to please his customers.

In 1882 Mr. Harrison was united in marriage to Miss Sadie Glassburn, a native of Tampico township and a daughter of Thomas and Mary E. (Varian) Glassburn, who were natives of Gallia county, Ohio, and came to Illinois in 1856, retaining their residence in Whiteside county until called to their final home. The father followed farming for many years and later took up his abode in the village of Tampico. He was born in 1832 and died in 1900, while his wife, whose birth occurred in 1833, passed away in 1898. They had two daughters, the elder being Mary, who is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Harrison. She served as postmistress of Tampico under the two administrations of President Cleveland. Mrs. Harrison engaged in teaching school prior to her marriage and her influence has always been on the side of culture and improvement. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harrison are well known in this county and have an extensive circle of friends, who entertain for them warm regard, while the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended them.

CAPTAIN LOYD H. DILLON.

In the history of the citizens of Whiteside county who did valiant service for their country in the Civil war and were ever loyal in matters of local advancement and national progress, it is imperative that mention be made of Captain Loyd H. Dillon, who in response to the country's first call for aid joined the army and with the exception of a brief period between the terms of his first and second enlistment was continuously at the front. Throughout his entire life he manifested the same spirit of loyalty in citizenship, while as a business man, as a friend and in the relations of the home he displayed all those sterling traits which in every land and clime awaken respect and regard.

Captain Dillon was born in Zanesville, Ohio, December 18, 1839, his parents being Loyd and Margaret A. (Culbertson) Dillon, who were also natives of Ohio. The Dillon family was established in the Buckeye state during the pioneer epoch in its history by his grandparents, John and Edith Dillon, who removed from Maryland to Zanesville, where the grandfather became an active factor in the business development and in the promotion of public interests. In the course of years he was joined by his son, Loyd Dillon, Sr.,



LOYD H. DILLON

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who was equally successful in business life. Unto Loyd and Margaret A. Dillon were born five children: Mary, the wife of David Law, of Dixon, Illinois; Loyd H.; Washington M., a resident of Sterling; Moses, now living in New York city; and Ella, who died young.

Captain Loyd H. Dillon spent the first fourteen years of his life in his native city. He was but seven years old at the time of his father's death. His education was acquired in the public schools and in the school of experience he gained many valuable lessons as the years passed by. Financial conditions rendering it imperative that he provide for his own support, about 1854 he went to Iowa City, Iowa, where he joined his cousin, Charles Dillon. Soon afterward he secured farm work in that locality and there remained until he attained his majority, gaining a livelihood by his labors in the fields.

He had not yet attained the age of twenty-one when in response to the country's need he enlisted for three months' service with the First Iowa Infantry. The first guns of the war were fired on the 12th of April. Six days later Captain Dillon offered his aid to the government and was mustered into the United States service at Keokuk, Iowa, May 14, 1861. He had watched with interest the progress of events in the south and resolved that if a blow was struck to overthrow the Union he would strike one in its defense. He had studied the questions of secession and slavery, was an abolitionist in principle and had the earnest hope of seeing the slave trade done away with through the processes of war—if war was to be declared. Once while plowing in the field he was interrupted by three men who were hunting a negro fugitive and they tried to make him tell where the man was. This he could not or would not do, but was compelled to assist in the hunt as they told him he was liable to arrest if he knew anything of the negro's whereabouts. Later, looking up the law on the subject, he found it to be correct and determined therefore to be one who would help to abolish it. Thus it was, that fired with patriotism and a desire to aid the oppressed people of the south, he joined the army and when the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns had scarcely cleared away, with his regiment he went to the front and while participating in the engagement at Wilson's Creek, Missouri, on the 10th of August, 1861, sustained a gunshot wound in the leg. On the 25th of that month by reason of the expiration of his term of service, he was honorably discharged, but the question of the Union's preservation was still an open one, and soon afterward he again donned the blue uniform, re-enlisted at Iowa City with the Fourth Iowa Cavalry. He was made sergeant of his company and promotion to the second lieutenantcy came on the 1st of February, 1863. On the 15th of May, 1865, he was commissioned captain of Company I, and thus commanded the company until the close of the war. He participated in many important engagements leading up to the final victory which crowned the Union arms, including the entire Atlanta campaign. At Guntown, Mississippi, he was shot through the lungs. He was never deterred by the lack of interest or loyalty from the performance of any military duty, whether on the lonely picket line or on the firing line, and after the close of hostilities was mustered out at Atlanta, Georgia, August 8, 1865.

With a most creditable military record Captain Dillon returned to Iowa City and soon afterward took the initial step in what proved to be a most happy domestic life by his marriage on the 28th of September, 1865, at Peoria, Illinois, to Miss Ruth E. Rees, a daughter of Jacob and Thamasin (Lupton) Rees and a native of Berkeley county, Virginia. Her birth occurred February 16, 1841, and she remained in the place of her nativity until fifteen years of age, when in 1856 she came west with her parents. Her paternal grandfather, Jacob Rees, also a native of Virginia, followed the occupation of farming. He married Ruth Simmons, and both lived to an advanced age. Their family numbered three children. The ancestry of the Rees family can be traced back in Virginia to 1734 and the original American settlers were of Welsh parentage. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Dillon were Jonah and Martha (Sidwell) Lupton, who were of English lineage and their only child was Thamasin Lupton, who in the Old Dominion became the wife of Jacob Rees. As stated, they removed westward to Illinois, settling at Elkhorn Grove, in Ogle county, where Mr. Rees engaged in farming, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring four years later, when he was forty-six years of age. His widow afterward removed to Sterling and subsequently went south to live with a daughter, Mrs. Jennie S. McGuire, at whose home she passed away October 6, 1897, at the age of seventy-nine years.

The marriage of Captain and Mrs. Dillon was blessed with eight children, of whom four are now living, Mary R., Edith S., Loyd R. and J. Rees Dillon. The daughters are at home and Mary is a teacher in the Central public school of Sterling. The sons are conducting a ranch near Bixby, in Butte county, South Dakota. The elder son, Loyd R., married Miss Anna Driscoll, of Vale, South Dakota, and they have one daughter, M. Ruth.

Following his marriage, Captain Dillon engaged in farming until 1872, when he took up his abode in Sterling. Here he engaged in the milling business, organizing the Dillon Milling Company, which conducted a successful and extensive enterprise in that line. In his business interests Captain Dillon was practical, energetic and determined. He brooked no obstacles that could be overcome by unfaltering perseverance and honorable labor and in all of his business career maintained a high standard of commercial ethics. He thus enjoyed in a large measure the confidence and trust of those with whom he had association or dealings and at the same time through his intense and well directed activity won a gratifying measure of success. He continued as one of the leading representatives of industrial interests at Sterling up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 18th of June, 1898, when he was fifty-nine years of age. He was laid to rest with military honors in Riverside cemetery, the funeral services being conducted by William Robinson Post, G. A. R., of which he was a valued and prominent member. He also belonged to the Modern Woodmen Camp and other fraternal organizations. His political allegiance was unfalteringly given to the republican party, yet he never sought nor desired office as a reward for party fealty. He belonged to the Presbyterian church and his life was in harmony with his professions. His religious faith guided him in all of his relations with his fellowmen, making him considerate in his treatment and in his opinions of others, while justice

and truth became salient features of his character. He did not seek to figure prominently in any public light but day after day faithfully did his duty and thus contributed his share to the world's work and progress.

J. A. JAMISON.

J. A. Jamison carries on general farming on sections 5 and 32, Prophetstown township, where he owns one hundred and ninety-five acres of land adjoining the corporation limits of the village of Prophetstown. He is a native son of the neighboring state of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Franklin county, October 31, 1845. His parents were Thomas and Sarah (Smith) Jamison, natives of Delaware and of Pennsylvania, respectively. The father, taking up the study of medicine in early life, became a physician and successfully followed his profession for a number of years. His wife was a school teacher in early womanhood prior to her marriage, which was celebrated in Indiana. They lived for a time in Franklin county, but subsequently removed to Union county, when the son was but a small child. Here the father died in 1855. The family came to Illinois in 1859, settling in Lee county, which remained their place of residence for many years. The mother died in 1887, and is survived by four of her five children, but one daughter, Emma, has passed away. The others are: W. A., who is living in Rock Falls; Rebecca, the wife of Daniel Swartz, of this state; J. A., of this review, living in Prophetstown; and J. Q., whose home is in Iowa.

Reared under the parental roof, J. A. Jamison obtained his education in the public schools and remained with his mother until twenty-nine years of age. He was then married to Miss Elizabeth Over, who was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, in 1854, a daughter of Henry and Catherine (Feighner) Over, who arrived in Illinois about 1858 and established their home in Whiteside county. Her father died in 1899, but the mother still survives and resides with her children. Their family numbered four children, namely: Mrs. Jamison; W. H., who is a resident of Chicago; J. F., who makes his home in California; and Blanche, the wife of W. M. Tennyson, who resides in Louisiana.

Following his marriage, Mr. Jamison turned his attention to farming in Montmorency township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1881. In that year he took up his abode in Sterling, where he resided for one year, after which he rented a farm in Prophetstown township. A year later he again removed to Sterling, but when another twelve months had been spent in that city, he came back to Prophetstown township and purchased a farm on sections 5 and 32. It has since been his place of residence, and its further development and improvement have claimed his time and energies. He here has one hundred and ninety-five acres of land which is very rich and fertile. It lies adjacent to the village of Prophetstown, and no finer location can be found in the entire township. The soil responds readily to the cultivation and large crops are annually gathered and constitute a

marketable commodity, bringing to the owner a very gratifying financial reward. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jamison were born six children, but the eldest died in infancy, the others being: T. F., who is acting as cashier in the Citizens' Bank, at Prophetstown; Alfred O., who is engaged in teaching school; John C., who is at home; and Laura and Edith, also under the parental roof.

Mr. Jamison votes with the republican party, his political preferment being always in that line. He keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, but his ambition is not in the line of office seeking. On the contrary he considers the pursuits of private life as abundantly worthy his best efforts, and to his labors he owes his advancement. From early youth he has been one of the world's workers, and his fine farm, with its splendid improvements, is the visible evidence of a well spent life. In this part of the state, where he has lived from early boyhood, he has a wide acquaintance, and the fact that his staunchest friends are those who have known him for many years, is an indication that his record has at all times been a creditable one.

MRS. MARY J. COCKING.

Mrs. Mary J. Cocking, well known in Whiteside county, where her entire life has been passed, is interested in an estate of two hundred and sixty-two acres on sections 21, 22 and 27, Erie township. This constitutes a valuable farming property, from which a good income is annually derived. Her birth occurred here in 1837, her parents being John S. and Rachel (Sher) Rowe. Both her father and mother were natives of the state of New York and came to Illinois at an early epoch in the development of Whiteside county. Her father entered land from the government in this county and began the development of a new farm, for not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made upon the place when it came into his possession. In course of time his labors had converted the place into a rich and productive tract of land, from which he annually gathered good harvests. The family were living here at the time of the memorable tornado of 1848—a most severe windstorm which blew his house and barns to pieces, killing two sons of the family and blowing Mrs. Cocking, then a little child, out of her sister's arms, so that she sustained injuries from which she never fully recovered.

Mrs. Cocking spent her girlhood days under the parental roof, attended the public schools of the neighborhood and was trained in the duties of the household, so that she was well qualified to take care of a home of her own when in 1868 she gave her hand in marriage to James Cocking, who was born in England in 1821. His life record covered about seventy-three years and he devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits. He came to America and, establishing his home in Whiteside county, secured land and carried on general farming. As the years passed he brought his

fields under a rich state of cultivation and at his death left a valuable property, comprising two hundred and sixty-two acres of land in Erie township, which is still in possession of the family. He died March 2, 1894, and his death was deeply regretted by many friends as well as his immediate family.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cocking were born six children, five of whom are still living, namely: William J., now a resident of Oklahoma; Minnie, the wife of Thomas James; Mahala and Robert J., both at home; and Cora E., the wife of S. A. Adams, of Erie township. Mrs. Cocking still resides upon the old home farm which her husband developed and improved. She is well known in this county as one of its worthy pioneer women, being a representative of one of its oldest families, while for seventy-one years or throughout the entire period of her life, she has lived in this part of the state and been an interested witness of the changes that have occurred and the work that has been wrought in bringing the county up to its present state of development and improvement.

WILLIAM LANE.

William Lane is justly classed among the substantial agriculturists of Prophetstown township, for he is the owner of four hundred and thirty-nine acres of as fine land as can be found within the boundaries of Whiteside county. He is also worthy of mention in this volume from the fact that he is one of the few remaining veterans of the Civil war, where he was found as one of the loyal defenders of the Union.

Mr. Lane was born in Niles, Berrien county, Michigan, June 18, 1837, a son of Benjamin and Charity (Roper) Lane, both of whom were natives of the state of New York, the former born in Ulster county, June 5, 1804, while the mother's birth occurred in Cayuga county, September 18, 1809. From the Empire state the father removed with his family to Berrien county, Michigan, being numbered among its pioneer settlers. The father there took up a tract of government land, whereon he made his home for some time. His family numbered six children, of whom only two are now living, the sister of our subject being Mrs. Sarah A. Winchell, of Tampico. The wife and mother passed away in Michigan March 17, 1843, at the comparatively early age of thirty-four years. The father was married a second time, this union being with Mrs. Elizabeth F. Robinson, who died in 1878. In 1855 the father removed to Illinois, settling near Yorktown, in Henry county, where he had purchased land the previous year and there he made his home for a long period, but the last few years of his life were passed in the home of his son William, his death occurring October 14, 1886, when he had reached the very advanced age of eighty-two years.

William Lane spent the period of his boyhood and youth on the homestead farm in Berrien county, Michigan, and his education was acquired in the common schools of Niles, that state. He was a youth of nineteen years at the time of his father's removal to Henry county, this state, and there he

remained during the succeeding six years, when, feeling that his first duty was to his country he enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Company K, Fifty-seventh Illinois Infantry, enlisting on the 12th of May, 1862, for three years' service. He participated in many engagements, the most important of these being at Corinth, Town Creek, Resaca, and he was also a participant in the Atlanta campaign, was in the engagement at Bentonville, North Carolina, and was with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea. He was wounded in the battle at Corinth but not so seriously as to become disabled for active service, nor did he ever lose any time on account of sickness but was always found at his post of duty, being honorably discharged May 21, 1865.

Mr. Lane then returned to his home in Whiteside county, where he resumed the occupation of farming. His first purchase of land was eighty acres, which was still in a wild state, but he at once undertook the task of developing and improving this and has since added to his original purchase until he is now the owner of four hundred and thirty-nine acres, located in Prophetstown township. He has placed many improvements on this property, including a good country residence and substantial outbuildings, while the land has been placed under a high state of cultivation, annually yielding abundant crops as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon it. In addition to carrying on general agricultural pursuits, he is also engaged in raising stock, making a specialty of hogs, of which he annually raises large numbers. He is enterprising in all that he does, keeping in touch with modern methods of agriculture, so that he is meeting with well deserved success.

Mr. Lane was married in Prophetstown, October 18, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth Wroe, who was born in Virginia, March 11, 1852. Her parents were Benjamin and Matilda (Kennedy) Wroe, who were likewise natives of Virginia, the former born July 18, 1807, while the birth of the latter occurred February 9, 1816. Removing from Virginia to this state, they established their home near Princeton, Bureau county, becoming pioneer settlers of that section of the state. Later they removed to Missouri, where the father died on the 30th of June, 1857, when he had reached the age of fifty years. After the death of the father the mother returned to Whiteside county, where she lived for a time and then went to Kansas, where her remaining days were spent, her death there occurring on the 4th of May, 1901, when she had reached the extreme old age of eighty-five years. Of their family of seven children only four are now living, namely: John W., who resides in Oregon; James T., a resident of Missouri; Mrs. Grace M. Sweet, also a resident of Oregon; and Elizabeth, now Mrs. Lane.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Lane has been blessed with six children: Ida E., who is engaged in teaching school and lives at home; William C., of Prophetstown township, who wedded Fannie May Fee, by whom he has a son, Paul; Charles F., who wedded Bessie Templeton, by whom he has two daughters, Hazel and Gladys, and makes his home in Savannah, Illinois; Mary A., the wife of Clifton Naftzger, a resident of Prophetstown township; Grace, who is engaged in teaching school; and Nellie, at home.

Mr. Lane cast his first presidential ballot in support of Abraham Lincoln and has supported every candidate of the republican party since that time. He has served as school director for a number of years but aside from this has held no public office. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which they take an active and helpful interest, while with his old army comrades he maintains pleasant relations through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. He thoroughly enjoys home life and takes great pleasure in the society of his family and friends. His life is exemplary in all respects and he has ever supported those interests which are calculated to uplift and benefit humanity, while his own high moral worth is deserving of highest commendation.

FRANK BROWN.

Frank Brown, who follows general farming on section 22, Hume township, was born in New York city, April 12, 1858, his parents being James and Catherine (Gaulropp) Brown. The father, whose birth occurred in Germany on the 7th of December, 1832, is still living on his farm on section 22, Hume township, having passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey. His wife, who was born November 12, 1836, in Germany, died on the old homestead in this county, January 2, 1908.

The father was only five years of age when brought by his parents to America in 1837, the family home being established in New York city, where he acquired his education and learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed in the metropolis for a number of years. It is rather unusual for a man city born and city bred to choose farm life but this course Mr. Brown pursued and it proved a wise one. In the year 1865 he came westward to Whiteside county and took up his abode upon a farm west of Rock Falls, which he rented. He continued to cultivate rented land until 1876, when with the money he had saved from his earnings he invested in eighty acres of land on section 22, Hume township. Not long afterward he bought eighty acres more and has since lived on that place, his labors transforming it into a productive and valuable farm, upon which are now seen many substantial improvements. In his work he has been energetic and practical as well as progressive and has gained well merited success. His wife came to America with her parents in 1851 and they, too, resided in New York city, where Catherine Gaulropp gave her hand in marriage to James Brown. Unto them were born ten children, as follows: Henry, a resident of Hume township; Frank, whose name introduces this record; Mrs. Amelia Heckman, a resident of Sterling; Mrs. Lizzie Gaffey, who resides in Hume township; John, also of Hume township; Mrs. Mary Pettit, who makes her home in Cordova, Illinois; George, who resides in Sterling; Joseph, who died at the age of twenty-six years; and two, who died in infancy.

Frank Brown was a little lad of about seven years when brought by his parents from New York city to Whiteside county, where he has since

lived. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges and under his father's direction he received ample training in the work of the farm, early becoming familiar with the best methods of carrying on the work of field and meadow. When twenty-five years of age he started out in life on his own account as an agriculturist and in 1900 he bought eighty acres from his father. This he at once began to improve and develop, erecting all of the buildings upon the place and making it largely a model farm. Here in connection with the raising of cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also raises shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs of high grade and his business interests are materially advanced thereby.

On the 18th of October, 1882, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Annie Beck, who was born in Germany, August 14, 1861, and is a daughter of John and Rose (Haberer) Beck. The father, who was born in 1817, died in 1878, and his wife passed away the same year. Her birth occurred in 1830. Their family numbered six children: Mrs. Christina Wolber, who makes her home in Sterling; Mrs. Barbara Obendorf, a resident of Carroll county, Illinois; Annie, now Mrs. Brown; Jacob, of Sterling township; Mrs. Rose Brown, a resident of Hume township; and Mrs. Sallie Stern, also of Sterling township. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Brown has been blessed with five children: William, born July 13, 1883; Frank, July 1, 1885; Mable, January 29, 1888; Roy, July 10, 1893; and Grace, September 9, 1902, all yet under the parental roof.

Mr. Brown has served as a school director for several years and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart and earnest champion. He gave his political allegiance to the democracy until 1905, when he became a supporter of republican principles. He and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church and he belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp No. 12 of Sterling and to the Mystic Workers of the World at Rock Falls. Almost his entire life has been passed in this county and for more than four decades he has been closely associated with agricultural interests here. He stands as a high type of the progressive farmer, who utilizes his opportunities to good advantage and is quick to adopt any new method which his judgment sanctions as a valuable one in promoting farming interests.

JOHN WHITE.

Few of Whiteside county's native sons have resided so long within its borders as has the gentleman whose name introduces this review and who is recognized as one of the wide-awake, alert and enterprising farmers of Garden Plain township. He was born January 15, 1846, within a mile and a half of his present home, and the years which have since come and gone have wrought many changes, transforming the county from a wild and little improved district into a region of rich fertility and productiveness. His parents, Edward and Mary A. (Matthews) White, were natives of Durham, England, and came to America about 1844. Making their way into the in-



JOHN WHITE AND FAMILY

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terior of the country, they settled in Garden Plain township, where the father first purchased one hundred and forty-nine acres of land that cost him prices varying from one dollar and twenty-five cents to two dollars and fifty cents per acre. He improved all this land, but it required much arduous labor to transform the wild prairie into fertile fields, bringing forth rich and abundant crops. Upon that place Mr. White reared his family and the children attended school as opportunity offered, but educational advantages were somewhat limited. In fact, the unimproved condition of the country brought about many hardships and privations incident to the frontier. In the early days of his residence here, Mr. White did his milling at Como, making the journey with ox team and sled, for there were few wagons in the county. Means of transportation being limited, one settler would often do the milling or marketing for his neighbors and thus a single trip would suffice. The death of Edward White occurred December 24, 1890, when he had reached the age of seventy-five years, and his wife passed away January 20, 1897, at the age of seventy-eight years. They had a family of six children: Edward, deceased; John, of this review; Alice, the wife of Charles F. Peck, of Rockford, Illinois; Harriet, the widow of Samuel Curry, of Garden Plain township; Thomas, who is living in Anamosa, Iowa; and Mary A., who is upon the old homestead.

Like the others of the family, John White pursued his education in the schools of Garden Plain and Newton townships, but later had the advantage of attending the Morrison high school. He put aside the text books, however, before the time of graduation and returned to the farm with his father. At the age of twenty-two years he entered the employ of a farmer of Newton township, with whom he worked for a year at twenty-two dollars per month. Ambitious, however, to engage in farming on his own account, he then purchased a team and when in his twenty-third year began farming upon rented land. He thus operated land belonging to others until 1877, when the capital he had acquired through his industry and economy justified his purchase of the farm on which he now resides, comprising one hundred and eleven acres of land in Garden Plain township. A few improvements had been put upon it at the time of his purchase, but it has been mainly through the efforts of Mr. White that it has been converted into an attractive property, equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of the model farm. His place occupies one of the most desirable locations in the township and upon the farm stands a good residence, substantial barns and outhouses that furnish ample shelter for grain and stock. Mr. White makes a specialty of raising fine draft horses and also keeps some fine cattle and hogs.

On the 26th of January, 1876, was celebrated the marriage of John White and Miss Lizzie Adams, of Albany, a daughter of John and Jane (Short) Adams. Her father was a native of Scotland, while her mother came from New York when three years of age. John Adams arrived in Whiteside county about 1840 or 1841 and was one of the earliest stonemasons in this part of the state. There are few of the old houses to be found in the county that do not bear some evidence of his handiwork. He left Whiteside in 1868 and went to the west, where he remained until his death

in June, 1907. In his family were four children: Lizzie, the wife of Mr. White; Frank, a resident of Grand Junction, Colorado; John, whose home is in San Francisco, California; and George, living in Texas. Mrs. Adams was married a second time in 1868 to Richard Brown, of Garden Plain township, who owned and occupied a farm there. They had two children: Abbie, the wife of James Hanson, of northern Minnesota; and William, living in Clinton, Iowa. Mrs. Brown died in 1906, at the age of sixty-eight years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. White have been born a son and daughter: Arthur B., who wedded Mary Johnson, a native of Anamosa, Iowa, by whom he has one son; and Lula M., the wife of Burton Wheeler, who is engaged in practicing law and is holding the position of county attorney at Butte, Montana.

Mr. and Mrs. White hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and are much interested in its work. He is serving as one of the church trustees, while Mrs. White is president of the ladies' society known as the Willing Workers. They are highly esteemed throughout the community and have a circle of friends coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance. They both belong to old pioneer families of the county and in the work of progressive development here have always borne **their part**.

JOHN A. RIORDON.

John A. Riordon, a member of the law firm of Blodgett & Riordon, has made gratifying advancement at the bar by reason of his close application, his earnest study, his careful analysis and his logical reasoning. The firm of which he is junior partner receives a liberal clientage and one that connects them with much important litigation tried in the courts of the district.

Mr. Riordon is a native son of Whiteside county, having been born in Newton township in 1876. He comes, however, of Irish lineage. His parents were Bartholomew M. and Ellen B. (Kane) Riordon, natives of Vermont and New Jersey, respectively. The father was a son of Irish parents, who settled in the Green Mountain state, and there Bartholomew M. Riordon was reared to farm life and has practically made agricultural pursuits his life work. He came to Illinois about 1852, settling first at Albany, where he followed surveying for a short time. Before coming to this state, however, he lived for a brief period in Wisconsin. On withdrawing from surveying he purchased land in Newton township, where he still makes his home upon a farm. Although he was in limited financial circumstances at the time of his arrival here, by his industry and frugality he has become prosperous and is now the owner of two hundred acres of rich and productive land, which annually returns him a good income. He has always raised considerable stock and this, too, has been a good source of income. He married Ellen B. Kane, who about 1855 came with her mother to Illinois, settling at Fulton, where she was married. Both Mr. and Mrs. Riordon are communicants of the Catholic church, and fraternally he is connected with

the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a democrat and has been road commissioner and school director for many years. Throughout the community where he resides he is greatly esteemed by reason of what he has accomplished and the honorable methods he has followed in his business career.

Unto him and his wife have been born nine children: William G., a farmer, of Newdale, Canada; Mamie, who is engaged in teaching and resides with her parents; Margaret, at home; James K., who is engaged in the grain and coal trade in Erie, Illinois; John A., of this review; George, also living at Erie; Nellie, who has previously engaged in teaching and is now a student at the State Normal, at DeKalb; and Charles B. and Robert, who are still on the homestead farm.

John A. Riordon, who was reared upon the old homestead farm, mastered the common branches of learning in the district schools and afterward pursued a business and shorthand course at Clinton, Iowa. Determining upon the profession of law as a life work, he spent three years as a student at the Northern Illinois College at Fulton, Illinois, graduating therefrom in June, 1900. During the same time he also studied in the law office of C. C. McMahon, of Fulton, and in 1900 was admitted to the Illinois bar. In January, 1901, he began practice at Morrison, entering into partnership with W. A. Blodgett. This relation has since been continued and the firm have been very successful. Mr. Riordon presents his cases in clear and logical manner and has won many notable forensic victories. Aside from his work as a member of the legal fraternity he is connected with the financial interests of the county as a stockholder in the First National Bank.

Mr. Riordon was married February 20, 1908, to Miss Daisy M. Boyd, who was born in Morrison, a daughter of Peter R. and Elizabeth A. (Fraser) Boyd.

JOHN R. RENNER.

John R. Renner well deserves mention among the self-made men, for, starting out in life empty-handed, whatever success he has achieved is attributable entirely to his own untiring labor. That is the secret of his prosperity—his earnest, unremitting toil. He was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, February 17, 1842, of the marriage of William and Elmina (Reinhart) Renner, both of whom were natives of Greene county, Pennsylvania. The father was born in 1812 and died in 1862, while the mother, whose birth occurred in 1815, passed away at the ripe old age of eighty-six years. Their family numbered the following: John R.; James A., a resident of Hahnman township, Mrs. Mary J. Collins, of Tampico, Illinois; Mrs. Susan Buxton, of Deer Grove, this county; Mrs. Ruth Swope, of Wright county, Iowa; and Frank, a resident of Hahnman township. It was in the year 1842 that the parents came west from Pennsylvania making the journey down the Ohio and up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Peoria, where they secured a claim of govern-

ment land, upon which they resided for two years. On the expiration of that period they came to Bureau county, Illinois, where they lived for eight years and thence removed to Whiteside county.

John R. Renner was but an infant when his parents left the Keystone state and came to the middle west. He was reared to farm life and had but limited opportunities in his youth. He worked in the fields during the summer months as soon as his strength permitted and it was only by attending school in the short winter seasons that he acquired his education. Throughout the remainder of the year his time was taken up with the task of plowing, planting and harvesting until he reached the age of eighteen, when he began working by the month as a farm hand. At one time he worked for two weeks for ten yards of blue drilling, such being the low wage paid at that time.

After the outbreak of the Civil war, however, he put aside business interests and all other considerations that he might become a defender of the Union cause, enlisting on the 14th of September, 1862, as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Infantry. He enrolled his name at Geneseo, Illinois, and saw hard service at the front. He participated in the battles of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Atlanta, Georgia, and numerous smaller engagements. He was captured at the battle of Columbia, Tennessee, and incarcerated in Andersonville prison for six months, or until the close of the war, suffering all of the horrors of that famous rebel prison. After the close of hostilities he was mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, July 1, 1865. He had gone to the front when a boy inexperienced, but returned a man with all a man's experiences and the knowledge that comes from suffering hardships and trials.

Again taking up his abode in Whiteside county, Mr. Renner began farming in Hahnaman township, where he rented land for a short period. He then joined his brother in the purchase of eighty acres of wild land which he sold in a short time and invested in one hundred and sixty acres in Lee county, Illinois. This he broke and improved, turning the sod in many a field and bringing the farm under cultivation. At length he sold that property and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Tampico township, which he also developed and improved. He then again sold out, after which he and his brother divided their interests. Starting in business alone, Mr. Renner purchased two hundred acres on sections 20 and 21, Hahnaman township in 1880. It was then wild and uncultivated land but he improved it and there carried on farming until about ten years ago, when he retired from active business life and is now renting his land. He likewise owns one hundred and twenty acres on section 17, Hahnaman township, and from his property he obtains a good income that enables him to enjoy not only the necessities and comforts of life but also many of its luxuries. He has worked hard to achieve success and his prosperity is well merited.

Mr. Renner is now serving for his second term as supervisor and has been road commissioner for eighteen years, his fidelity to duty being manifest in his long continuance in this position. In politics he is a stalwart republican, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the

right of franchise. Fraternally he is connected with Tampico Post, G. A. R., and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. In days of peace he is as loyal in his citizenship as when he followed the old flag upon southern battlefields and faced the enemy's bullets in defense of the Union.

FRED W. SEARS.

Fred W. Sears, who as a civil engineer of Prophetstown is enjoying a liberal patronage, was born January 27, 1853, in the village in which he yet makes his home, his parents being Silas and Sarah C. (Warner) Sears, early residents of this part of the state. The father was a native of Vermont and was descended from ancestors who came to the new world prior to the war for independence. For many years the Warner family was represented in Missouri and is probably of German lineage. The marriage of Silas Sears and Sarah C. Warner was celebrated in Prophetstown in 1851, the former having become a resident of this place about 1848 or 1849. Here he engaged in teaching and for a number of years was the efficient principal of the Prophetstown schools, during which time he held to high ideals of education and did much to improve the course of public instruction in this place. He was elected county surveyor of Whiteside county, being the fourth or fifth incumbent in that office, to which he was re-elected until his service in the position covered twelve years. He was the first surveyor who, under the direction of the board of county supervisors, engaged in promoting the work of public drainage and in fact was the first to institute works of any great importance to the county. While he was filling that position, in connection with the surveyor of Rock Island county, he settled the boundary line between the two counties and in this settlement Whiteside county made great gain, while securing thereby valuable land, owing to the untiring and well directed efforts of Mr. Sears. Prior to this time the boundary line of the two counties was being continually changed by the change of the creeks. After his term of office as county surveyor had expired Mr. Sears engaged in the real-estate business and did work as a public surveyor. His services in the latter connection were in constant demand, especially in behalf of drainage, being employed by various drainage districts, for the subject of properly draining the county was at that time a paramount one before the people and through his labors he did much to reclaim otherwise uncultivable land. He continued in the real-estate and surveying business until his death, which occurred September 7, 1887, when he had reached the age of fifty-eight years. He was survived by his wife and son Fred, both of whom are still living. Mrs. Sears yet makes her home in Prophetstown at the age of eighty-one years and is enjoying excellent health, retaining both her mental and physical faculties unimpaired.

Fred W. Sears was educated in his native town and for two years attended the high school at Peru, Illinois. He was sixteen years of age when

he left school and began clerking in a general store in Prophetstown, his time and attention being thus fully occupied until he had attained his majority. He was married on the 6th of September, 1874, to Miss Louise Baldwin, of Prophetstown, a daughter of Edwin H. and Charlotte E. (Hanford) Baldwin, both of whom were natives of Connecticut, in which state the birth of Mrs. Sears also occurred. About two years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sears removed to Nebraska, where he purchased and improved a farm, upon which he made his home for three years. He then returned to Prophetstown and engaged with his father in surveying—a profession in which he had become deeply interested in his boyhood days. His practical experience with his father, who was one of the best civil engineers in the state at that time, gave him advantages which he could not have acquired in technical schools at that day. He has been especially devoted to engineering and as a civil engineer has gained a wide and gratifying reputation. For many years he has been employed by different drainage boards and districts of the county and under his supervision some of the best drainage of the county has been done. His work is always effective and his labors have resulted in making wild and unimproved districts tracts of rich fertility and value. His work has not been confined to Whiteside county alone but has extended into all adjoining counties and also into other districts. The years 1894, 1895 and 1896 he spent in Connecticut engaged in his profession in work on railways and public roads.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sears has been born a daughter, Pearl E., now the wife of Charles A. Nicholas, of New York city. They have one daughter, Grace L. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sears are members of the Congregational church and Mr. Sears belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp. Almost his entire life has been spent in the locality where he now makes his home and the fact that many of his staunchest friends are numbered among those who have known him from his boyhood indicates that his has been an active and honorable career. He has made orderly progression in his chosen calling, his broad experience and wide reading on the subject constantly augmenting his knowledge and promoting his efficiency. He has now an extensive patronage that renders his business profitable and satisfactory.

ERVIN BAUDER.

Ervin Bauder, the proprietor of a machine shop and pattern works at Sterling, is one whose business activity and well directed labor constitutes the basis of all the success which he has enjoyed and he may therefore well be termed one of the county's self-made men. He was born in the town of Palatine, Montgomery county, New York, February 13, 1842, his parents being Christopher and Lana (Nellis) Bauder. The family for several generations have been residents of the Empire state. The great-grandfather came from Germany to the new world when sixteen years of age and loyally served his adopted country as a soldier in the Continental army in the Revolutionary

war. His son, George M. Bauder, a native of New York, joined the army in defense of American interests in the second war with England in 1812. Throughout the greater part of his life he followed farming and died at the very advanced age of ninety-seven years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Suits, passed away previously at an advanced age. They were the parents of four children: George; Christopher, the father of our subject; Jane; and Philenia.

Christopher Bauder was born in Palatine, New York, and learned and followed the carpenter's trade, eventually becoming a contractor and builder at Palatine. He married Lana Nellis, also a native of New York, as was her father, Peter Nellis, who was a blacksmith. The Nellis family comes, however, from German ancestry. The death of Mrs. Bauder occurred in 1853, and the father long survived her, passing away in 1898, at the age of eighty-seven years. They were Lutherans in religious faith.

Their family numbered nine children: Simon, now living in Amsterdam, New York, married Rachel Getman and has two children, Ella and Carrie, both married. Eliza, who died in 1900, was the wife of George Drexler, living in Creston, Illinois, and they had two children, Ervin and Libby, both married. Eleanor, a resident of Palatine, New York, is the widow of Joseph Nestle, who died at Palatine Bridge in 1907. Rufus, also a resident of Palatine, married Haunah Dillenback and has three children, William, Ida and Charles. Ervin, of this review, is the next of the family. Henry, living in Wallowa, Oregon, married Matilda Veder and they have two children, May and Gertie, both married. Amanda first married William Miller and is now the wife of George Drexler, of Creston, Illinois. She has three children by the first marriage: Charley, now in Ohio; Jane, in Palatine, New York; and Ella, a professional nurse in Philadelphia. Lana is the wife of Jerry Van Wie, of Palatine. George, living at Ephrata, New York, married Orena Beck and has three children, Lizzie, Alice and Effa.

Ervin Bauder was reared on a farm in the Empire state and is indebted to the public school system of New York for the educational privileges he enjoyed. When twenty-one years of age he left the farm and began learning the pattern-maker's trade. The following year he came to the west, settling first at Springfield, Illinois, where he remained for three years, after which he went to Beloit, Wisconsin. A brief period there passed was followed by his removal to Lyons, Iowa, where he remained for several years. In 1871, he came to Sterling and worked for seven years as a pattern-maker for the Williams & Orton Manufacturing Company, after which he established a pattern shop on his own account in 1878 and has continued in the business to the present time, covering about thirty years. He also now conducts a machine shop, employing nine people. He owns his business property as well as a good residence at No. 612 Sixteenth avenue.

In April, 1870, Mr. Bauder was married to Miss Ottie Barnes, of Beloit, Wisconsin, a daughter of John Barnes. They have four children: Nina B., who is her father's bookkeeper; Clyde E. and Clair J., who are working in their father's shop; and Ethel, at home. The second son is married and has one child, Clair.

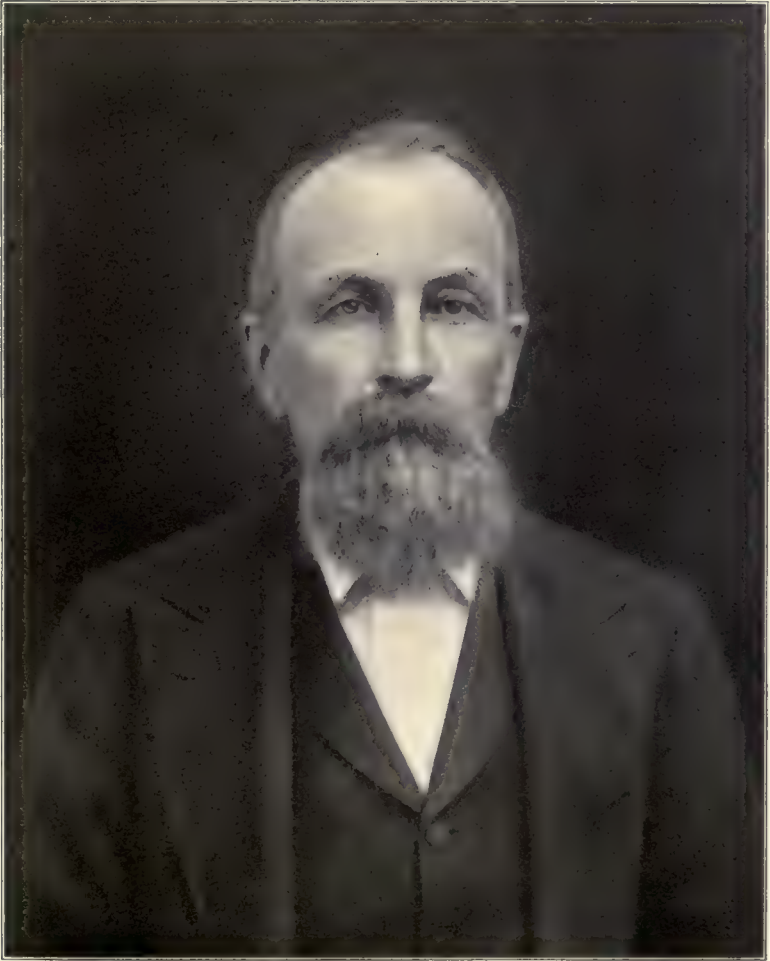
Mr. Bauder belongs to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and also to the Modern Woodmen Camp. He has long been known in the business circles of this city, where he has now made his home for thirty-seven years. He arrived here practically empty-handed and as the years have gone by has improved his business opportunities and is now in the control of a successful business, which through many years has yielded him an income beyond the needs of the day and year, making him one of the substantial residents of Sterling.

GEORGE NEER.

George Neer, who is now living retired in Erie, was born in Logan county, Ohio, on the 8th of May, 1841, his parents being Adam and Sarah (Pollic) Neer, both natives of Ohio. The father passed away September 22, 1867, while his wife departed this life on the 8th of August, 1847. The latter is survived by a sister, Mary Longfellow, who has attained the age of ninety-five years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Neer were born six children but only two are yet living, namely: Rachel, the widow of Henry Brotherson, of Whiteside county; and George, of this review.

George Neer received his education in the common schools and remained at home until twenty-one years of age, when he enlisted for service in the Civil War, becoming a member of Company G, First Ohio Infantry, but only served six months on account of illness. After being honorably discharged from the army he returned to Ohio, but only remained in that state for one month, after which he came to Whiteside county, Illinois. The first winter he was employed at cutting cordwood and the following spring rented a farm in Portland township, being successfully engaged in its operations for five years. On the expiration of that period he purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land on section 6, Erie township, which he brought under a high state of cultivation, carrying on the work of the fields for twenty-nine years. In addition to general farming he was also extensively engaged in raising sheep and hogs and through the careful management of his business interests gained the competence that enabled him, in 1897, to put aside active work and live retired. He is now the owner of three hundred acres of valuable land in Whiteside county and also has two hundred acres in Vernon county, Missouri, besides two fine residence properties in Erie, Illinois. His success is all the more creditable because it has been gained entirely through his own well directed labor and enterprise, for he started out in life empty-handed and has steadily worked his way upward to the goal of prosperity.

On the 16th of September, 1863, Mr. Neer was united in marriage to Miss Harriet E. Witt, who was born in Illinois, October 16, 1844, a daughter of Harvey and Hannah (Sanburn) Witt, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New Hampshire. The father died on the 6th of May, 1849, his wife surviving him until August 1, 1889, when she, too, passed away, having attained the age of eighty-five years. Mrs. Neer is one of a family of four chil-



GEORGE NEER

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dren and now the only surviving member. She taught school for three terms prior to her marriage. She has become the mother of seven children, namely: Sarah J., who is now the wife of Adam Young, of Erie township, and was formerly a school teacher; Frank, of Vernon county, Missouri; Horace A., who resides on the old homestead; John D., who makes his home in Clinton, Iowa; Hannah L., a graduate of the Erie high school, who is now the wife of Ira Talcott, of Erie; William, also of Clinton, Iowa; and Hattie C., who took a course in music and gave her hand in marriage to Frank Besse, of Erie. Mr. and Mrs. Neer also have ten grandchildren.

In his political views Mr. Neer is a staunch republican and has taken a prominent part in the local affairs of the party. He is the present assessor of Erie township and is also a member of the school board, having served in the former position for twenty years and in the latter for twenty-four years. He has also served as drainage commissioner for nine years and has ever been prompt and capable in the discharge of his official duties, gaining thereby the entire confidence and trust of his fellow men. Fraternally he is connected with Camp No. 14, M. W. A., and with Masonic Lodge, No. 667, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Christian church, with which his wife is also identified. In Whiteside county, where they have long resided, they have gained the respect and esteem of all with whom they have come in contact, for their lives have ever been guided by honorable principles.

JOHN T. FORTH.

John T. Forth, who carries on general farming on section 4, Fenton township, was born in Crowland, Lincolnshire, England, October 14, 1848, his parents being William and Mary Ann (Scotchbrook) Forth, who were also natives of England. The maternal ancestors of our subject were John and Charlotte (Taylor) Scotchbrook, natives of Lincolnshire, where they continued to make their home until 1853. The former was born April 4, 1793, and the latter December 9, 1795. Sailing for the new world in 1853, they became pioneer residents of Fenton township, Whiteside county, Illinois, where John Scotchbrook purchased a small farm, on which they made their home. He died in July, 1872, while his wife survived until May, 1882, passing away in her eighty-sixth year. They were the parents of three children, the eldest being Mary Ann, who became the wife of William Forth. She was born October 3, 1824, in Lincolnshire, England, and the marriage was celebrated December 14, 1847. In the year 1851 William Forth brought his family to the United States and making his way into the interior of the country settled in Lyndon township, Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1852. He afterward removed to Burr Oak, Wisconsin, but later returned to Lyndon in 1861. In his native country William Forth had worked on the canal but after coming to the new world gave his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits. He died May 11, 1886, at the age of fifty-eight years, while

his wife survived until the 14th of October, 1894, continuing her residence in Whiteside county up to the time of her demise.

John T. Forth, their only child, was brought to America by his parents at the age of three years. For about a year the family resided in Tompkins county, New York, and then continued on their westward journey to Whiteside county. In 1858 they went to LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and after three years spent in that state again came to Illinois in 1861, settling in Lyndon township, Whiteside county. In 1868 the family removed to Fenton township and John T. Forth resided upon his farm in that township for forty years, being closely associated with the agricultural development of the community. but in the spring of 1908 he purchased a home in Morrison, to which he moved, his sons carrying on the home farm, comprising two hundred and thirty-one and a half acres of land on section 4, Fenton township. All of the buildings upon the farm have been erected there since the Forth family took possession. Two sets of buildings are to be seen, both in excellent condition. John T. Forth erected his second set since his father's death. As the years have passed he has devoted his time and energies to general farming and stock raising, has brought his fields into a state of rich fertility, and has raised good grades of cattle, horses and hogs. In all of his work his labors have been actuated by strong determination and a resolute spirit, and his capable management and energy have brought to him a gratifying measure of success.

On the 21st of September, 1875, Mr. Forth was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Hollowell, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 2, 1856, and was brought to Whiteside county at the age of six months by her parents, John and Sarah (Clough) Hollowell, both of whom were natives of England, the mother having been born in Yorkshire. After a residence of three years in Whiteside county they returned to Pennsylvania, where the succeeding three years were passed, and then again came to Illinois, once more taking up their abode in Whiteside county, where they lived until called to their final home. The father was a carpenter by trade and followed that pursuit in the east, but after taking up his abode in Whiteside county he carried on both carpentering and farming. His death occurred January 7, 1895, when he was in his seventieth year, his wife having passed away about ten years before, dying on the 14th of May, 1885, at the age of fifty-eight years. They were the parents of four children who reached adult age: Mrs. Martha Wilson, now living in Clinton, Iowa; Mrs. Forth; Daniel, also a resident of Clinton, Iowa; and Mrs. Sarah Mesch, who has likewise passed away.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Forth have been born seven children: William J., who was born June 18, 1877, married Effie Crocker, is now engaged in the hardware business in Fenton under the firm style of W. J. Forth & Company, and is also postmaster of the town. His father is the silent partner of the firm. George Edward, who was born May 27, 1879, resides upon and cultivates a part of the old homestead. He wedded Hannah Swanson and they have three children: Mary, Arthur and Easter. Daniel, born October 1, 1884, is employed by his brother in the hardware store in Fen-

ton. Frank, born April 3, 1887; Fred James, born December 5, 1889; Edna Frances, December 30, 1892; and Sidney Joseph, May 26, 1897, are all at home.

Because of his unremitting activity and unwearied diligence in former years, Mr. Forth now well merits the success which he enjoys and which enables him to live retired without further recourse to labor. His fellow townsmen—those among whom he has long lived—know him as a thoroughly reliable business man and progressive citizen and a faithful friend, and these qualities entitle him to classification with the representative residents of Whiteside county.

HENRY C. LANCASTER.

Henry C. Lancaster has throughout his entire life been identified with agricultural pursuits, but has lived on his present farm for only about a year, having in 1907 purchased one hundred and twenty-nine acres in Prophetstown township. He was born in Lyndon township on the 6th of February, 1865, his parents being Charles and Sarah (Hippy) Lancaster. The father was a native of England, born in 1827, and, thinking to enjoy better business opportunities in the new world, he resolved to take advantage of the chances here offered and in 1851 crossed the Atlantic to New York. Later he located in Whiteside county, arriving in the year 1855. Not having the capital with which to purchase a farm, he rented land for about ten years and during that period his diligence and careful expenditure brought him sufficient funds to justify his investment in a farm on section 22, Lyndon township. To this he added as opportunity offered until at the time of his death he owned a valuable property of two hundred and eighty-six acres. Long since the time has passed when he was able to secure only the necessities of life, for as year after year went by his careful conduct of his business interests brought him a good return, enabling him to secure the comforts and some of the luxuries which go to make life worth living. He passed away December 18, 1906, and is still survived by his widow, who now resides in Prophetstown township. This worthy couple were the parents of four sons and two daughters, namely: Mary, the wife of M. S. Hill, of Prophetstown township; Charles, who makes his home in Prophetstown; Sarah, the wife of Millard Hill, also of Prophetstown; W. M., also of this city; Henry C., of this review; and Frank, who follows farming in Prophetstown township.

Henry C. Lancaster lived with his father on the old homestead until his death and was early trained to habits of industry, economy and perseverance—habits which in later years have borne rich fruit. At the usual age he was sent to the common schools and the acquirement of an education largely occupied his time and energies for a number of years. In the summer months he was trained in the work of the farm, learning the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. Wishing that his labors

might directly benefit himself, he rented the old homestead farm for twenty years and after his father's death he made purchase of a farm of one hundred and twenty-nine acres in Prophetstown township. To his new home he removed in 1907 and is now busily engaged in its further development and improvement. He uses the latest machinery to facilitate the work of the fields, manifests sound judgment as to the time of planting his crops and as to the condition of the soil. He is an excellent type of the enterprising agriculturist and keeps in touch with the advancement that is being continually made by the representative farmers of Illinois.

In 1892 Mr. Lancaster was married to Miss Keene Hurstweight, a native of Prophetstown township, where her parents located at an early day, but both are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster have been born five children: Charles W., Cecil B., George I., Mary E. and Clara A. The parents are members of the Congregational church, faithful to its interests, generous in support and active in its work. They stand for progress in all lines, being interested in educational, material, social and moral development here. Mr. Lancaster has served for twenty years as school director and is now one of the school trustees. The cause of education finds in him a friend whose efforts in its behalf are practical and far-reaching. He votes with the republican party, but his ambitions and desires do not center in the line of political preferment, but rather in the acquirement of success through the means of agricultural activity.

AUGUST FRANK.

August Frank, a retired merchant tailor living in Sterling, was born near the city of Hamburg in north Germany, October 25, 1845, and is one of the five children of Christian and Sophie (Schmidt) Frank. The paternal grandfather was Johann Frank, a miller by occupation, who died at the very venerable age of eighty-seven years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sophie Zimmer, died when about seventy-seven years of age. They had a number of children, including Christian Frank, who was born near Strasburg, Germany. After arriving at years of maturity he married Sophie Schmidt, also a native of the fatherland, her birth having occurred near Hamburg. She was a daughter of August Schmidt, also a miller, who was seventy-nine years of age at the time of his demise. His wife, Mrs. Augusta (Genson) Schmidt, attained to an old age. They were the parents of five children.

Christian Frank was a miller by trade and conducted a mill for many years in the village of Zimmer, Germany, where he died in 1867 at the age of sixty-five years. His wife survived him for some time and passed away in 1874 at the age of seventy-one years. They were the parents of three sons and two daughters: Sophie, who died at the age of seventeen years; Fred, who is living in Chicago; Charles, who makes his home near Belvidere, Illinois; August, residing in Sterling; and Fredericka, the wife of Fred Mau, of Chicago.

August Frank was reared in Germany until he had almost attained the age of twenty years, and in the schools of that country he acquired his education. In 1865 he came to America, settling in Batavia, New York, where he followed the tailor's trade. In 1866 he made his way westward to Chicago and in 1869 was sent to Sterling by John V. Farwell to do cutting for the firm of E. W. Edson & Company. In 1877 he engaged in the merchant tailoring business for himself and continued in that line until the 1st of January, 1904, when he turned the business over to his son, Albert J., who still continues at No. 28 West Third street. Since that time Mr. Frank has lived retired in the enjoyment of well earned rest.

On the 16th of October, 1870, occurred the marriage of Mr. Frank and Miss Margaret O'Neill, a daughter of John and Hannah (Carton) O'Neill. Her father died when she was two years of age. Her mother lived in Sterling and died here August 29, 1888, when about seventy-two years of age. She was a daughter of James Carton, who died in Ireland in middle life. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Frank were born six children, five daughters and a son; Anna M., the wife of C. M. Forney, a resident of Spencer, Iowa; Catharine C., the wife of W. M. Rourk, of Sterling, by whom she has one daughter, M. Alice; Albert J., who wedded Adele Meyer, of Sterling, and they have a daughter, Mary Elizabeth; Margaret, the wife of Harry B. Hurd, an attorney of Chicago, by whom she has two children, Margaret Harriet and Anna Catharine; Mary A., the wife of L. E. Birdsall, of Hopkins township, by whom she has one child, Ruth; and Sophie E., the wife of Oscar B. Newell, of Sterling, by whom she has one child, Edward Frank Newell.

Mrs. Frank is a member of St. Mary's Catholic church, while Mr. Frank belongs to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and for many years has been identified with that organization. Politically he is a republican. He resides at No. 405 Avenue C, where he has recently erected a new house, and he also owns several other good properties in Sterling, from which he derives a fair income.

GEORGE JAMES.

George James, a successful agriculturist, owning one hundred and seventy-two acres of well improved land in Fenton township, was born in England in November, 1829, his parents being William and Sarah (Tucker) James, who died in that country when he was still very young. The only other member of the family was his sister, Eliza, who is also deceased.

George James acquired a common-school education and when fifteen years of age became a sailor, following the sea for ten years. In 1855, accompanied by his wife, he crossed the briny deep to the new world, having heard many favorable reports of the business conditions and chances for advancement on this side of the Atlantic. After the brief period of three weeks spent in New Jersey, he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he has made his home ever since. Here he and his wife first worked for his

uncle for two years, receiving two hundred dollars per year, while subsequently he worked on Dr. Smith's farm of three hundred and eighty acres, later renting this property for a short time. After this he purchased seventy-two acres on section 32, Fenton township, Whiteside county, and as his financial resources increased added to his holdings until he now owns one hundred and seventy-two acres of rich and productive farming land, which returns to him a gratifying annual income. The well tilled fields and modern improvements on the place give evidence of the enterprising and progressive spirit of the owner, who is widely recognized throughout the community as one of the county's worthy pioneers and well known agriculturists. The success which has come to him is attributable entirely to his own well-directed labor and unremitting industry, for he started out in life empty-handed and by determined and persistent effort gradually-worked his way upward.

On the 19th of May, 1849, in England, Mr. James was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Milton, who was born August 30, 1829, a daughter of James and Ann Milton, both of whom are deceased. Unto our subject and his wife have been born eleven children, namely: George, deceased; Eliza A., at home; William H., of Erie township, Whiteside county; Elizabeth, the wife of J. C. Pratt, of Rock Island, Illinois; Louisa, who became the wife of H. D. Fadden and resides in Portland township, this county; Jettie J., the wife of Henry Pfundstein, of Fenton township, Whiteside county; Fred, of Erie township, this county; Emma, who has also passed away; Thomas, of Fenton township; Harriett, the wife of W. H. Pratt, of Erie township; and John, who resides in Erie, Illinois, a member of the firm of Baxter & James, furnishing goods.

In his political views Mr. James is a staunch republican and his interest in the cause of education is indicated by his service as school director for three years. He has also been pathmaster and is actively interested in all measures or movements instituted to promote the general welfare, his influence being ever given on the side of reform, progress and improvement. He is a member of the Franklin Insurance Company of Springfield, Illinois. Having resided in this county for more than a half century, both he and his wife are well and favorably known here, receiving the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded those who have traveled thus far on life's journey and who in all relations have been guided by upright and honorable principles.

ARTHUR E. CURTIS.

Arthur E. Curtis, a well-known druggist and pharmacist of Rock Falls, was born in Montmorency township, Whiteside county, Illinois, December 30, 1882, his parents being William E. and Edna D. (Barber) Curtis, both natives of Illinois. His paternal grandparents were George William and Lois R. (Hart) Curtis, natives of New Hampshire. The former, who fol-



A. E. CURTIS

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lowed agricultural pursuits throughout his entire life, came west to Illinois at an early day, being one of the pioneers of Montmorency township. He purchased and improved a farm, which he operated until within a few years of his demise, which occurred in Rock Falls in 1902, when he had attained the age of eighty-four years. His wife accompanied her parents to North Dakota at a very early day, coming to Whiteside county a few years later. She still makes her home in this county, residing at No. 305 Second avenue, Rock Falls, and is highly respected as one of the venerable pioneer women of the community, being now eighty-six years of age. In the family of this worthy couple were the following children: Jesse; Henry; William; Libby, the wife of B. H. Gray, of Kansas; Belle, the wife of Irving Green, a Methodist minister of Everly, Iowa; and Emily, deceased.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Sidney Barber, a native of Vermont and also a farmer by occupation. He was an early settler of Loma township, where he owned the farm that is now known as the Charley Day farm. Eventually he removed to Rock Falls and there passed away when more than eighty years of age. His wife, whose demise occurred in the spring of 1906, was eighty-six years old when called to her final rest. Their family numbered three daughters: Frances E., the wife of Theodore Jenkins, of Beaumont, California; Edna D., the mother of our subject; and Ada, who became the wife of Joseph Wright and makes her home in Rock Falls.

William E. Curtis, whose birth occurred in Montmorency township, Whiteside county, Illinois, was reared to agricultural pursuits and eventually became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of fine farming land in this county, which he improved. In 1890 he sold the property and removed to Rock Falls, where he engaged in the livery business and also began buying, selling, raising and shipping horses. He met with a gratifying measure of success in these undertakings and passed away in Rock Falls on the 19th of May, 1903, at the age of forty-nine years. He was a member of the Methodist church, with which his wife, who still survives him, is also identified. Fraternally he was a member of Advance Lodge, No. 590, I. O. O. F., and gave his political support to the republican party. He served as constable and city marshal and gained respect and esteem for the efficient manner in which he discharged his official duties, as well as for the straightforward and reliable methods he followed in his business career. His family numbered four sons, namely: Elmer, of Portland, Oregon; Arthur E., of this review; Sidney Barber Curtis, who resides in Rock Falls; and George William, also of Rock Falls.

When six years of age Arthur E. Curtis accompanied his parents on their removal to Rock Falls, where he was reared. He supplemented his public-school education by a high-school course and was graduated in 1901. Subsequently he secured a clerkship in the drug store of J. M. Kline & Son and in the meantime also studied pharmacy. In the fall of 1903 he entered the University of Illinois at Champaign and was graduated in the spring of 1905 on the completion of the regular pharmaceutical course. He then went to Dixon, Illinois, where he remained for two years as a stockholder in the Walgreen-Davis Drug Company. Returning to Rock Falls on the expiration

of that period, on the 1st of February, 1907, he purchased the drug store of J. M. Kline & Son, which he has since conducted, having gained a liberal patronage by reason of his well selected and tastefully arranged stock of goods and his reliable and enterprising business methods.

On the 24th of September, 1907, Mr. Curtis was united in marriage to Miss Deborah E. McMahon, a daughter of Patrick J. and Bridget (Rourke) McMahon, both natives of Ireland, whose children are: John, of Sterling; Timothy, who resides in San Francisco, California; Simon, also of Sterling; Deborah E.; George, who likewise lives in Sterling; and Catharine, who makes her home in Chicago.

In his political views Mr. Curtis is a staunch republican. His wife is a communicant of St. Mary's Catholic church. He lives at the corner of Avenue C and East Second street in Rock Falls, in the home originally owned by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Barber. His grandparents in both the paternal and maternal line were pioneers of Whiteside county and took an active part in the early development and upbuilding of this part of the state, the names of Curtis and Barber figuring prominently in the annals of pioneer times. Arthur E. Curtis, although a young man, has already made a commendable place for himself in the business circles of the county and his friends do not hesitate in prophesying for him a successful future.

ERNST TOPPERT.

Ernst Toppert, the owner of an excellent farming property of two hundred acres on section 34, Prophetstown township, has resided on this place since 1906. He was born in Germany, April 20, 1859, a son of Thomas and Beatrice Toppert, who were also natives of the fatherland and passed away in that country. Their family numbered eight children, namely: Carl, deceased; Ernst, of this review; Beatrice, who has also passed away; August, living in Iowa; Paul, deceased; and Bertha, William and Ida, who still reside in Germany.

Ernst Toppert acquired a common-school education and remained in the country of his nativity until twenty-five years of age, when in 1884 he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, having heard many favorable reports of the opportunities and advantages to be enjoyed in the new world. He first located in Bureau county, Illinois, where he was employed as a farm hand for four years. On the expiration of that period he was married and subsequently operated a rented farm for thirteen years, meeting with gratifying success in the conduct of his agricultural interests. Subsequently he purchased one hundred and sixty acres near Tampico, Whiteside county, making his home thereon for four years, when he sold the property and bought two hundred acres on section 34, Prophetstown township, where he has resided since 1906. He is recognized as one of the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of the county and the success which has come to him is entirely the result of his indefatigable industry and capable business management.

In 1887 Mr. Toppert was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Houch, who was born in Henry county, Illinois, in 1867, a daughter of Michael and Catherine Houch, both natives of Germany, who came to the United States at an early date, the father passing away in 1894, while the mother's demise occurred in 1901. Their family numbered eight children, as follows: Katie, deceased; Caroline, the wife of Henry Reeder, of Bureau county, Illinois; Nicholas, who lives in Prophetstown township; Phillip, of Henry county, Illinois; Minnie, who became the wife of Fred Brewer and lives in Bureau county; John and Charles, of Prophetstown; and Mrs. Toppert. Mr. and Mrs. Toppert have also become the parents of eight children: William H., Fred E., Carrie A., Emma A., Earl H., Ernst H., and Floyd A. and Lloyd A., twins.

In his political views Mr. Toppert is a stalwart republican and has served as school director for several years, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart friend. Fraternally he is connected with Tampico Camp, No. 9, Modern Woodmen of America, at Tampico, and with the Knights of Pythias at Prophetstown. Both he and his wife support the Methodist Episcopal church and are well and favorably known throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and sterling traits of character. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought, which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man, and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward.

S. A. ADAMS.

S. A. Adams, a successful agriculturist of Erie township, making a specialty of stock raising, was born in Rock Island county, Illinois, on the 30th of June, 1870, a son of D. S. and Sarah (Clark) Adams, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. The parents removed westward to Illinois in 1858, and the mother passed away in this state in 1882. D. S. Adams, who still survives, had a family of five children, namely: J. C., of Rock Island county, Illinois; Laura, the wife of Ben Osbern, also of Rock Island county, Illinois; S. A., of this review; William, deceased; and Mary, the wife of Frank Taulbee.

S. A. Adams pursued his education in the common schools, remaining with his father until twenty-six years of age, when in 1896 he was united in marriage to Miss Cora E. Cocking, further mention of whom is made on another page of this work. Two children, Floyd L. and Myrtle R., have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Adams. Our subject now owns and successfully operates a part of the farm of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary E. Cocking, and in connection with the work of the fields also makes a specialty of stock raising. He has met with a gratifying measure of success in both branches of his business and is recognized as one of the enterprising and prosperous young agriculturists of his community.

In his political views Mr. Adams is a republican and has held the office of school trustee, while fraternally he is a member of Bowling Lodge, No. 637, A. F. & A. M., having filled most of the chairs in this organization.

HARVEY R. HAND.

Harvey R. Hand, whose time and attention are busily occupied with the work of the farm, now owns and occupies a valuable place of one hundred and twenty-four acres on section 10, Hume township. The farm is devoted to the raising of grain and stock and presents a neat and well kept appearance, indicating the careful supervision of the owner. Mr. Hand is, moreover, entitled to representation in this volume from the fact that he was a soldier of the Civil war and in days of peace has been equally loyal in citizenship. His birth occurred March 31, 1841, in Troy, Orleans county, Vermont, his parents being John B., and Elizabeth (Peak) Hand. The father was born in Peacham, Vermont, in 1806, and died in the Green Mountain state in 1889. The mother, a native of Jaffery, New Hampshire, was born in 1807 and died in 1892. Removing westward to Whiteside county in 1867, they were residents of Coloma township until 1881, when they returned to Vermont, where their remaining days were passed. Their family numbered eight children but only three are now living: Mrs. Frances M. Varnum, a resident of Peacham, Vermont; Mrs. Orilla H. Hebblethwaite, also of Peacham; and Harvey R. One son, Bement J., entered the United States army when eighteen years of age and died before completing the term of his enlistment.

At the usual age Harvey R. Hand entered the public schools of his native state and supplemented his early educational privileges by study in the academy at Peacham, Caledonia county, Vermont, where he spent five years as a student. The chances of the west attracted him to Illinois in the spring of 1865 and locating in Whiteside county he devoted his efforts here to the management and cultivation of a rented farm in Coloma township. Becoming convinced that he would like this district as a place of residence, he then invested in two hundred acres of land in Coloma township and at one time owned a valuable farming property there of four hundred acres but in 1890 he sold that and purchased his present place of one hundred and twenty-four acres in Hume township. He has always been a stock-raiser and keeps high grade cattle and hogs upon his place, conducting an extensive and profitable business as a stockman. The only interruption to his active business career since he started out for himself came through his service as a soldier of the Civil war. In May, 1861, he offered his services to the government, enlisting in response to the president's call for three months' troops. He joined Company I of the Third Regiment of Vermont Volunteer Infantry but was soon afterward discharged on account of disability. He could not content himself to remain at home, however, while the Union was endangered and in August, 1862, he again joined the army, this time becoming a member of Company F, Fifteenth Vermont Infantry, with which he participated in the

hotly contested and sanguinary battle of Gettysburg. Later in the same year (1863) he once more returned to his home in Vermont, the regiment being mustered out. It was soon after this that he came to Illinois and has since been a valued resident of Whiteside county.

On the 12th of March, 1884, Mr. Hand was united in marriage in Montmorency township to Miss Celia D. Carroll, who was born in Morgan county, Ohio, January 2, 1867, and is a daughter of Monroe and Mary (Taylor) Carroll. Her father died in Ohio in 1868, after which the mother came with her family to Whiteside county, settling in Montmorency township in 1870. She had two children but Mrs. Hand is the only one now living. After coming to Illinois Mrs. Carroll married James Barrett and they are still living in Montmorency township. They also had two children: Otis, now deceased; and Josephine, the wife of James Sensensbaugh, of Hume township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hand have been born five children: Elizabeth R., Mary C., John M., Nathan H. and Taylor J., all under the parental roof.

The parents are members of the Congregational church and are people of many sterling traits of character as is evidenced by the fact that their circle of friends is an extensive one. Mr. Hand maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and he has been called to some local offices. He served as road commissioner in Coloma township for seven years and was school director for some years and his influence and aid can always be counted upon to further movements to promote the public welfare. He has always stood for progressive citizenship and has ever been most loyal to the interests of his locality and of his country at large. As a business man his labors have been carefully conducted and his intelligent discernment in business affairs has been a strong element in his prosperity.

F. L. HUBBART.

F. L. Hubbard, owning and successfully operating one hundred and seventy acres of land on section 7, Erie township, was born in Union Grove township, Whiteside county, on the 4th of November, 1862. His parents, S. S. and Adaline (Remer) Hubbard, natives of Sanford, Broome county, New York, were born in 1825 and 1833 respectively. The father emigrated westward to Illinois in 1838, locating in Lyndon, Whiteside county, where he remained for a short time, when he entered a claim of land in Union Grove township. He was one of the early pioneers who aided in reclaiming a wild region for the purpose of civilization and his death, which occurred on the 5th of March, 1898, was regretted by many who had come to esteem and honor him. He had survived his wife for but four days, her demise having occurred on the 1st of March, 1898. Their family numbered nine children, as follows: F. L. of this review; Stella, the wife of H. P. Coster, of Shabbona, De Kalb county, Illinois; Franz S., of Erie township; and six who are deceased.

F. L. Hubbart acquired his education in the common schools and remained under the parental roof until he had attained the age of thirty-five years, when he purchased a farm of one hundred and seventy acres on section 7, Erie township. He has brought the land under a high state of cultivation and in the conduct of his agricultural interests is meeting with a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity, the fields responding annually in bountiful harvests to the care and labor he bestows upon them.

On the 11th of October, 1903, Mr. Hubbart was united in marriage to Mrs. Ann Molten, the widow of Charles Molten. She was born in Whiteside county, where her parents (Mr. and Mrs. Andrews), who were natives of Ireland, had located in an early day. To them were born a family of eight children: William, of Clinton, Iowa; Mary, the wife of Richard Vickery, of South Dakota; Mrs. Hubbart; Ellen, who became the wife of Paul Sawyer and resides in Beardstown, Illinois; James, of Erie, Illinois; Martha, the wife of George Franks, also of Erie, Illinois; and two who have departed this life. The father of this family has also passed away but the mother still survives and makes her home in Erie. By her first marriage Mrs. Hubbart had one son, David Lester, who is at home, and by her second union has a daughter, Stella Ann.

In his political views Mr. Hubbart is a stalwart democrat and is at present serving as road commissioner. Fraternally he is connected with Erie Lodge, No. 317, K. P., at Erie, Illinois, being highly esteemed by his brethren in the organization. Both he and his wife support the Christian church and, being natives of the county in which they still make their home, they are widely and favorably known here, having gained the warm friendship and regard of many with whom they have come in contact by reason of their well spent and honorable lives.

GEORGE FORWARD.

George Forward, who formerly conducted a meat market in Tampico but is now interested only in farming, giving supervision to his land not far from the village, is numbered among the venerable residents of Whiteside county, having reached the eightieth milestone on life's journey. He is, however, a remarkably well preserved man, who does not appear to be more than sixty-five years of age, while in spirit and interests he seems yet in his prime.

He was born in Sussex, England, September 9, 1828, and in 1832 was brought to the new world by his parents, George and Sarah (Cager) Forward. They were natives of Sussex and after living in the east for some time they joined their son George in Illinois about 1860. The father, however, died in Michigan at the home of his son there, while the mother survives and is living with a daughter in Kansas. She was born October 30, 1809, and is therefore almost a centenarian. Their children were: George; Mrs. Charlotte Pooler, deceased; William, a resident of Prophetstown township; Frank, who is living



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE FORWARD

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in Wacousta, Michigan; Fannie, the wife of John Bunker, whose home is near Wichita, Kansas; Edwin, living in Banessville, Kansas; Charles, who is located at Goddard, Kansas; Mary Ann, the widow of Simeon Baird, of Penrose, Illinois; Lewis, whose home is near Maize, Kansas; Sarah, who died at the age of two years; and Adelbert, whose home is at Eaton Rapids, Michigan.

George Forward was less than four years of age when the parents, crossing the Atlantic, landed at New York in May, 1832. The family home was established in Cayuga county, New York, near Ira Corners, where the father carried on farming, to which pursuit George Forward was reared. He began farming on his own account after attaining his majority and was identified with agricultural interests in the east until 1858, when he came with his wife and one child, then two years of age, to Illinois. They first located near Yorktown on a tract of land of eighty acres, upon which Mr. Forward resided until 1878. He then came to Tampico and established a meat market, conducting the business with good success for fifteen years. Since that time he has given his attention to farming, having forty acres of land on section 15, Tampico township, just west of the town and also twenty acres within the corporation limits. He also owns a comfortable residence, which he purchased about a year ago.

Before leaving the east Mr. Forward was married, in 1852, to Miss Marian Daratt, a native of Cayuga county, New York, who died in Whiteside county in 1867 at the age of thirty years. They were the parents of two children: Albert, who is living near Tampico; and Minnie, the wife of Delos Craddock, of Tampico. In 1871 Mr. Forward was again married, his second union being with Miss Sarah Burnham, who was born in Manlius, Onondaga county, New York, August 26, 1838.

In his political views Mr. Forward has been a stalwart republican since the organization of the party and has served for twelve years on the village board. Although he has reached the age of four score years he possesses remarkable vitality and energy and has the appearance of a man much younger. Nature is kind to those who do not abuse her laws and Mr. Forward has lived in conformity therewith. His record should put to shame many a man of younger years who would relegate to others the burdens that he should bear, for Mr. Forward is still an active factor in the activities of life and commands the respect and confidence of all who know him.

R. H. McKENZIE.

R. H. McKenzie, a resident of Tampico yet deriving his income from valuable farming interests in Illinois, was born in Bureau county, this state, November 31, 1854, his parents being O. W. and Emily (Dow) McKenzie. The father was a native of Essex county, New York, born March 8, 1825. His great-great-grandfather came from Scotland and settled in eastern New York, where he reared a family of seven children, namely: Alexander,

Robert, Crosby, Sallie M., Ethel, Thomas and John. All of the sons were soldiers in the war of 1812 and the military record of the family was therefore a most creditable one.

John McKenzie took part in the battle of Plattsburg. He was born August 6, 1794, and died in Bureau county, Illinois, July 3, 1857. He was married on the 23d of February, 1815, to Miss Betsey Havens, who was born February 9, 1796, and passed away March 5, 1854. They became the parents of nine children: Hiram, Eliza, John M., Oliver W., DeLafayette, Lyman W., Lomira C., Robert and Chancy D. The parents with their children removed westward to Bureau county, Illinois, in the spring of 1846 and during the first summer lived upon a rented farm. In the fall of that year they built a log house with a board roof on section 7, Fairfield township, where the father had secured a claim. During the first years of their residence in this pioneer home they hauled all the water used in the house in barrels from Woodford Bluff in Whiteside county, a distance of six miles. Such were some of the privations of pioneer life necessary to pave the way to the prosperity of later years. Two years after building his log cabin John McKenzie hauled lumber from Chicago and built a frame house, in which he and his wife spent their remaining days. At that time Chicago was but a small town of little industrial or commercial importance and the most farsighted could not have dreamed of the wonderful growth to which it would attain in less than a century. The crops were hauled to market there, for there were no railroads to supply easier transportation.

O. W. McKenzie came to Illinois with his parents and took advantage of the opportunity offered by the government to secure a claim, obtaining one hundred and sixty acres on section 7, Fairfield township, of which he afterward entered eighty acres, while his brother John entered the remaining eighty. They broke the first prairie where Yorktown now stands, hiring two yokes of oxen from Joseph Arnett at fifteen cents per day. Oliver W. McKenzie afterward bought these oxen for ten dollars per head. With characteristic energy he continued the improvement and development of his eighty acres and to the farm moved a pole house which he had purchased for five dollars. Having thus made preliminary arrangements for a home of his own, he further completed these by his marriage, on the 20th of March, 1850, in Princeton, Illinois, to Miss Emily Dow, the eldest daughter of Witcher and Eunice (Bump) Dow, former residents of Cayuga county, New York, who in 1847 arrived in Bureau county, Illinois. Mrs. Dow was widely known as an excellent nurse and a woman of many splendid traits of character, who was loved by all. She was born December 7, 1806, at Mount Holly, Rutland county, Vermont, and died November 30, 1877. It was on the 27th of January, 1828, that she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Dow, with whom she traveled life's journey happily for nearly a half century. Mr. Dow was born in Danville, Vermont, October 13, 1804, and died in Illinois, May 30, 1882. They were the parents of eight children: Mrs. Emily McKenzie, Mrs. Emaline McKenzie, Benjamin F., Thomas, Edward W., Henry H., Mrs. Albina A. Greenman, and Clay Q. Of this family the first named, Emily McKenzie, was born March 5, 1829, in Cattaraugus county, New York, and by her mar-

riage became the mother of six children: Eliza E., Julia A., Raymond H., William E., Oliver W., and one who died in infancy.

Oliver W. McKenzie was always a successful farmer and stock-raiser, whose carefully conducted interests brought him a creditable measure of success, so that at the time of his death he owned seven hundred and sixty acres of land, rich and productive. He was the first blacksmith and store-keeper of Yorktown, and was not only associated with its commercial and industrial interests but also took an active part in political affairs in his locality. He was the first constable and assessor of Fairfield township, filling the former position for thirteen years, and in the discharge of his duties he manifested the utmost fidelity as well as capability. Active in business, he achieved a gratifying measure of prosperity and the methods which he followed won for him the respect and confidence of all.

R. H. McKenzie, whose name introduces this record, remained with his father until he attained his majority, pursuing his education in the public schools and gaining intimate knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil through the assistance which he rendered in carrying on the home farm. When he had reached adult age, he rented a part of his father's land for four years and then bought eighty acres in Bureau county. Removing to this farm, he made it his place of residence until 1890, when he located upon the old homestead belonging to his father and operated it for two years, thus relieving his father of all the care and labor connected with the cultivation of the place. There the father died July 22, 1891, having for about three years survived his wife, who passed away November 5, 1888. Following the death of the former, Mr. McKenzie removed to Tampico, where he has since made his home. He is now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable and productive land in Bureau county, eighty acres in Whiteside county and ten acres of timberland in Henry county. He always handled stock while living upon the farm, keeping on hand high grades of horses, cattle and hogs and realizing a good profit from his annual sales. He has been associated with the business interests of Tampico as a progressive merchant, dealing in groceries and men's furnishing goods for six years and also conducting a meat market.

On the 12th of February, 1879, Mr. McKenzie was married to Miss Lovina West, who was born in Whiteside county in 1859, a daughter of Isaac West, a native of the state of New York, and one of a family of three children. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children, two sons and one daughter: Roy E., who is a graduate of a business college at Galesburg, Illinois; Hazel F., who is in Aurora, this state; and Clyde, at home. The parents are consistent and faithful members of the Christian church and Mr. McKenzie indicates his views upon the temperance question by the stalwart support he gives to the prohibition party. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Tampico, to the Knights of the Globe, and to the Bankers Life, of Des Moines. He has always lived in this section of the state and is a representative of one of the oldest and most prominent pioneer families. His own record has been in harmony with that of the family and he stands for progressive citizenship, for integrity in business and for uprightness in every

relation of life. He is now deriving his income from his invested interests while he is practically living retired, save for the supervision which he gives to his property.

J. H. SIMONSON.

A record of the pioneer development of Whiteside county would be incomplete and unsatisfactory were there failure to make mention of the Simonson family, who in 1839 became residents of this part of the state. He whose name introduces this record was a lad of nine years and throughout his remaining days was a factor in the agricultural development of this locality and aided in making the once wild district one of the richly productive counties of northern Illinois. He was a native of the state of New York, his birth having occurred in Berkshire county, November 6, 1829. His parents were Frederick and Sabrina (Harvey) Simonson, who were also born in the Empire state, where Frederick Simonson followed farming until 1839. The opportunities of the west, however, seemed to offer better advantages and with his family he journeyed to Illinois in a prairie schooner. This was at a time before railroad travel and the roads across the country were often in poor condition so that they made but slow progress. At length, however, they reached their destination and Mr. Simonson invested in one hundred and sixty acres of land in what is now Hopkins township, Whiteside county. Upon the place a little log cabin had been built and soon the family was installed there with their few household goods and life in the pioneer west was begun. There were many hardships and trials to be endured, owing to the remoteness from **centers of trade** and to the fact that settlements were widely scattered. The father resolutely took up the task of transforming wild prairie into cultivable fields and in course of time gathered large crops as a reward for his labors.

J. H. Simonson was a lad of but nine years at the time of the removal to Whiteside county and thus amid pioneer scenes and environments he was reared, enjoying such pleasures as youths of the period indulged in but having comparatively few opportunities for educational advancement. He attended the subscription schools, which were conducted for a time at his father's house. His education, however, was more largely acquired under the direction of his father, who was a well informed man and greatly desired the intellectual advancement of his children. He also attended a school at Unionville, where he met his future wife. At length J. H. Simonson qualified for teaching and followed that profession for a number of terms in the district schools but later took up the occupation to which he was reared and carried on farming in Lyndon township on the Rock river. When he disposed of his farm there he invested in forty acres of land in Mount Pleasant township at Round Grove station, which was already under cultivation. He began its further development and improvement and also extended its boundaries until it comprised four hundred acres all in one body. In addition he owned a tract of timber

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MRS. J. H. SIMONSON



J. H. SIMONSON

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land in Hopkins township, besides his own fine home, a warehouse, store building and four tenant houses. He was truly a self-made man and his strong purpose, laudable ambition and unwearied ability to manage were the leading features in the success which came to him. He was a prominent Granger, being the first secretary of the First State Grange of Illinois. He was also purchasing agent and master of the local Grange.

Mr. Simonson was married January 3, 1853, to Miss Lavinia M. Sherwin, who was born in Bennington county, Vermont, July 15, 1830, while her parents, Jacob and Polly (Lyon) Sherwin, were natives of Massachusetts. Her grandfather, Jacob Sherwin, Sr., was the first Presbyterian minister of that state. He was graduated from Yale College and the diploma which he received from that institution is still in possession of the family. Both he and his wife died in the east and the death of Jacob Sherwin, who had devoted his life to farming, occurred in Vermont. His widow afterward came to Illinois and spent her last days in Whiteside county. She was a daughter of Jonathan and Olive (Poole) Lyon, natives of Massachusetts, who removed to Bennington, Vermont, after the Revolutionary war and there spent their remaining days. Her father loyally fought for the independence of the colonists and lost an arm in the service. Among the ancestors of Mrs. Simonson was also Elijah Lyon, whose old sword and scarf were much prized possessions of Mrs. Simonson, who had beside, other relics of the olden days. She traced her ancestry back to Captain Barbour, who served in King Philip's war and was justly proud of an honorable ancestry. Mrs. Simonson was the younger of two children, her brother being Elijah O. Sherwin, a resident of Centralia, Illinois. Five children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Simonson: Marcia, of whom mention is made later; Kate W.; Walter, who died in infancy; Cora B.; and Effie May, who died in infancy. Of this family Kate W. Simonson married Joseph H. Chamberlin, both of whom taught school in early life, and after living in Sterling for a few years removed to Chicago. Mr. Chamberlin studied law but most of his life has been devoted to the insurance business and he is now in partnership with his brother George. Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlin have four children: Mabel May, who is now the wife of Ralph Wilkinson and has a little daughter, Alice; James Percy, a telephone manager living at home; Jessie Lavinia, who is the wife of Charles Chapman and has two children, Mildred and Robert; and Joseph Frederick, still in school. Cora B. Simonson married Wellington J. Austin, who was also a school teacher but is now an employe of the Chicago postoffice. They lived at Clark, South Dakota, for a time but Mr. Austin now resides in Chicago, his wife having died in the Englewood district of that city. Their children were Fred S., of Chicago, who married Susie Maxwell and has one son, Fred; Alice May, a stenographer of Chicago; and John and Harold, who occupy good positions near their home.

Mr. Simonson served for many years a school director and the cause of education found in him a stalwart friend. He voted with the republican party, held membership relations with Dunlap Lodge, F. & A. M., at Morrison and was a leading and helpful member of the Round Grove Methodist Episco-

pal church. Going to South Dakota on a prospecting tour, he died in Huron, that state. He had the previous year secured a claim there and it was his intention to improve it. He passed away March 21, 1882, and was long survived by his wife, who died September 26, 1906, at the age of seventy-six years. They were long numbered among the prominent and highly respected pioneer people of this locality and their worth was widely acknowledged. They had gained many friends, so that when death claimed them a feeling of sorrow pervaded the entire community.

Mrs. Simonson, following her husband's death, was for twenty-three and a half years in control of his estate. She came west with her mother at the age of sixteen years and in early womanhood taught school for a number of terms, her last school prior to her marriage being the Morrison school, which then stood on the knoll east of the town. She was to her husband of great assistance and he gladly attributed much of his success to her. She knew of all his business transactions and there were none of his business letters of any importance which were not subjected to her critical eye, so that when her husband passed away she was well qualified to take up the management of the estate, knowing much of his business. She managed the entire estate as if it were her own, giving the three daughters a share in the profits. She kept the place up, carrying on the work of building and repairing as the years went by and displayed excellent business ability and executive force. She gave the land for the elevator at the Round Grove railroad station and leased the land for the sand pit, where hundreds of carloads of moulding sand have been taken out. In her younger days she was a most happy, genial and jovial lady. Those who wished to see her could usually locate her, if they were near by, by her happy laugh, but this was seldom heard after the death of her husband. She continued a most kindly spirit to the end of her days, always trying to think of something she could do to please her friends, especially her nearest relatives. She lived to make "her dear ones" happy. As long as she lived her grandchildren had but to express a wish and if it were possible it was granted. The grandchildren, eleven in number, with the daughters, have spent many happy summer vacations at the beautiful Round Grove home, where every possible luxury was provided from her ever willing purse. Until her last illness she always enjoyed excellent health. She seemed to live for her "own dear ones" and among her host of friends the common expression is, "she is sadly missed." She left an example of kindness and helpfulness which may well be followed. She was for years a member of the Methodist church and her pastor added much to her enjoyment as she neared the dark valley. Her life indeed was the exemplification of noble Christian womanhood.

The oldest daughter, Marcia A. Simonson, who is now in charge of the old home farm of four hundred and three acres in Round Grove, was born in Lyndon township, October 11, 1853, and attended the Morrison high school, also Cornell College of Iowa. In addition to the usual work of the high school and was identified with some fraternal insurance orders. In politics he was to teach piano or organ. In due time she completed the course and has taught

many terms of music lessons. In early womanhood she gave her hand in marriage to Walter E. Knox, who was born in Mount Pleasant township, May 25, 1851. He was reared here and became a merchant of Morrison. Subsequently he removed to a farm in South Dakota and afterward engaged in merchandising at Clark, that state. He belonged to the Odd Fellows society and college course she made a specialty of the study of music, fitting herself a stalwart republican.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Knox were born three children: James S. Knox, the eldest, born at Morrison, February 25, 1882, learned and followed the printer's trade and has spent four years in the Sentinel office at Morrison. Gracia L., born in South Dakota, August 7, 1885, is now pursuing a course of study in Chicago with the intention of becoming a trained nurse. She and her brother are both graduates of the high school at Clark, South Dakota, both have taught school and have also attended college. James spent two year at Wheaton College, Illinois. Claire S. Knox, the youngest, born in Clark county, South Dakota, December 11, 1887, is now a student in the high school at Morrison.

Mrs. Knox, with her two sons, occupies the fine home which was built by her father and is in charge of the farm, which is a valuable property. She spent twenty-three years in South Dakota and for a considerable portion of that time successfully conducted the home farm there. She has recently returned to Whiteside county, however, to assume the management of the estate left by her father until things can be adjusted to the satisfaction of all the heirs. She is a lady of unusual business and executive ability, with keen discernment and unfaltering enterprise and her management of the property interests has been attended with unusual success. She is well known in this county, where her birth occurred and she has many friends here.

WILLIAM H. MATTHEWS.

William H. Matthews, who operates two hundred acres of rich farming land in Prophetstown township, was born in Bureau county, Illinois, on the 1st of February, 1857, a son of Henry and Grace (Spargo) Matthews, natives of England. The parents emigrated to the United States in 1850 and Henry Matthews was employed as a common laborer in New Jersey for five years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Bureau county, Illinois, where he operated rented land until 1875, when he came to Whiteside county. Here he purchased forty acres of land and later added eighty acres more to his holdings, being successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits until the time of his demise in 1900. He was one of the early pioneers of the state and helped to convert the wild land into productive and fertile fields. His wife is still living in Prophetstown township, having now reached the age of eighty-six years. In her family were ten children, namely: Elizabeth, the wife of Madison Martin, of Iowa; Anna, who is the widow of George B. Terry and makes her home with her mother; John, who resides in Prophets-town township; and six who have passed away.

William H. Matthews, the other member of the family, acquired a common-school education and when he had attained his majority began work by the month at farm labor, being thus engaged for six years. Subsequently he operated rented land for a period of fifteen years, at the end of which time, having acquired sufficient capital, he purchased a tract of eighty acres on section 27, Prophetstown township. He now operates two hundred acres of land in this township and has met with a gratifying measure of prosperity in the conduct of his agricultural interests, his fields annually returning golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon them.

In 1885 Mr. Matthews was united in marriage to Mrs. Edith Jenkins, the widow of Arthur D. Jenkins. She has one daughter by her first marriage, Edith, a graduate of the Prophetstown high school, also of Valparaiso College in Indiana, and is now employed as a stenographer in Chicago. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Matthews have been born three children: Grace E., also a graduate of the Prophetstown high school, and after the completion of her studies at this school entered the Sterling Business College, from which she graduated and is employed in De Kalb, Illinois; Howard H., who is attending high school in Prophetstown; and Ralph W., at home.

Mr. Matthews is a stalwart supporter of republican principles and takes an active interest in local politics. He has served as school director for fifteen years, and fraternally is connected with the Mystic Workers of the World. He and his family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in the community where they reside are well and favorably known. The prosperity which has come to Mr. Matthews is entirely the result of his own well directed labor and enterprise, for he started out in business life empty-handed and dependent upon his own resources for the success which has crowned his efforts.

F. A. BREWER.

F. A. Brewer, carrying on general agricultural pursuits in Tampico township and also serving as township supervisor, being an active factor in matters of public progress and improvement, was born in Washington, D. C., September 26, 1875. He is a son of A. S. Brewer, a well known resident of Tampico, and remained with his father until twenty-one years of age, being reared upon the home farm, with the duties and labors of which he early became familiar. His early education was acquired in the public schools and later he attended the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, of which he is a graduate. He was thus well qualified for work in the educational field and became principal of the high school at Tampico, where he remained for five years, giving excellent satisfaction by his practical and progressive methods of teaching. On the expiration of that period, however, he resumed general agricultural pursuits and rented his father's farm, upon which he now lives. He has been located here for five years and makes a specialty of the raising of full blooded Durham cattle. He operates two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive

land on section 23, Tampico township, which belongs to his father, who is now living retired in the village of Tampico. Mr. Brewer of this review is an energetic agriculturist, whose practical, progressive methods are manifest in the excellent appearance of his farm. He brings sound judgment to bear on all matters of decision relating to the improvement of his place and in his business dealings is as reliable as he is industrious.

On the 23d of August, 1900, Mr. Brewer was married to Miss Cora Blanchard, who was born in Portland, Michigan, October 6, 1876, a daughter of Emery M. and Ada (Simmons) Blanchard. The father was born in Canada and the mother in the state of Michigan and they are now residents of Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer had but one child, a son, who died in infancy. Mrs. Brewer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Brewer is a Presbyterian. In politics Mr. Brewer is a republican and is now filling the position of supervisor of Tampico township and also that of school trustee. He belongs to the Masonic lodge and is in full sympathy with the principles of the craft which is based upon mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. He is a young man of broad general intelligence and laudable ambition, who is making for himself a creditable place in the business circles and public life of his community.

GEORGE A. ALLEN.

George A. Allen, real-estate and loan agent at Sterling, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, near the city of Kankakee, March 12, 1865, his parents being Albert B. and Anna M. (Mann) Allen, the former born near Buffalo, New York, and the latter in Ohio. The Allen family is of English lineage, the ancestry being traced back to a brother of Colonel Ethan Allen of Revolutionary war fame.

George W. Allen, the grandfather, was born in the Empire state and in early life followed the blacksmith's trade, later, however, becoming a farmer. He arrived in Whiteside county in 1869 and here spent his remaining days to the age of eighty-two years. His wife, Bessie Allen, died in middle life. They had three sons and two daughters, including Albert B. Allen, who throughout his entire business career carried on general agricultural pursuits. When seventeen years of age he arrived in Illinois, settling first in Dupage county, whence he afterward removed to Kankakee county, living also in Iroquois county for a time prior to the year 1868, when he took up his abode in Whiteside county. At that time he settled on a farm in Lyndon township, where he owned three hundred and eighty acres of land, his remaining days being devoted to the further cultivation and development of the farm, which he brought into a rich state of fertility. He was born November 18, 1826, and died August 20, 1887. His widow still survives him and resides on the farm with her son Elmer. She was a daughter of Alexander Mann, a native of Ohio, who also followed farming as a life work and on coming to Illinois established his home in Kankakee county, where his remaining days were passed.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Albert B. Allen were born seven children, two sons and six daughters: Sophronia, the wife of Rasmus Rasmussen, of Bureau county, Illinois; Ida J., the wife of Frank J. Besse, of Houghton, South Dakota; Sarah May, deceased, who was the wife of B. J. Hedger; Elmer L., who resides in Lyndon township, Whiteside county, Illinois; Maude K., of Sterling; George A., of this review; Satie A., who died October 15, 1870, at the age of two years; and Laura B., who became the wife of James McCue, of Hopkins township, Whiteside county, Illinois.

From the age of three years George A. Allen has been a resident of Whiteside county. The removal of his parents to Lyndon township made him a farm boy of that locality and a pupil in the district school near his father's home. He was early trained to the work of the fields and was thus well qualified to carry on agricultural pursuits on his own account when he started out in business life for himself. He was identified with the farming interests of the county until 1902, when he removed to Sterling to engage in the real estate and loan business, in which he still continues. As a valuator of real property he is seldom, if ever, at fault in matters of judgment and keeps well informed concerning the property which is upon the market, thus making judicious purchases and profitable sales.

On the 1st of January, 1891, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Lydia A. Runyan, a daughter of Henry Runyan. She was born in Carroll county, Illinois, June 1, 1867. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania and in their family were the following children: William Runyan, of Garrison, Iowa; Mary, the wife of Jacob Carney, of Iowa; Kate, who became the wife of David Cohnar, of Sterling; John, who makes his home in Iowa; Mattie, the wife of Joseph Myers, residing near Coleta, Illinois; Mrs. Allen; and George, who also lives in Iowa. After the death of the mother the father married again and there were six children by that union. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have but one child, a daughter, Clara M., who is with her parents in their pleasant home at No. 606 Sixth avenue.

In his political views Mr. Allen is a republican but the honors and emoluments of office have had little attraction for him, as he has preferred to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs and the enterprise and diligence which he has manifested have proven strong resultant factors in winning him enviable success.

GEORGE H. WHELOCK.

George H. Wheelock, identified with general agricultural pursuits in Erie township, was born in Rock Island county, Illinois, on the 28th of October, 1860, his parents being A. J. and Bridget (Evans) Wheelock. The father, a native of the state of New York, was born in Genesee county on the 1st of June, 1827, and was a son of the Rev. Wheelock, a native of Massachusetts, who was born in 1794. A. J. Wheelock was the seventh in order of birth in the father's family and was reared upon the home farm. When he was but

five years of age his parents removed to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where the Rev. Wheelock purchased a tract of land, cultivating it for a number of years. He then removed to Bridgewater township, Washtenaw county, Michigan, where he also carried on general agricultural pursuits.

His son, A. J. Wheelock, left home when a boy of twelve years and went to Ypsilanti, Michigan, where he secured employment in a livery stable. He followed that occupation for about two years and when twenty years of age, with the money saved from his earnings, he opened a livery stable of his own in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and conducted the business successfully for six years. In 1853 he removed to Rockford, Winnebago county, Illinois, where he engaged with a stage company and was thus employed for some time. Later he removed to Kane county, Illinois, and afterward worked on a railroad at Rochelle and LaSalle. About 1855 he arrived in Sterling, Whiteside county, where he turned his attention to commercial pursuits, establishing a grocery store. He was married in Sterling, on the 14th of August of that year, to Miss Bridget Evans, a native of Ireland, born December 27, 1826. They were the parents of five children but only two are now living. Mary E. is the wife of Eugene Chamberlin, now a resident of Newton township, this county. She was a graduate of the Davenport academy and taught school in early womanhood. The deceased members of the family are William A., Rosanna and Charles J. After the marriage of the parents the father engaged in railroading for a year and subsequently conducted a boarding house for five years. In 1865 he removed to Erie township, Whiteside county, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, to which he afterward added from time to time until he now owns three hundred and twenty-three and a half acres on section 14, Erie township. In 1858 he again established a boarding house for workmen employed on the Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad but afterward returned to the farm, where he now resides, having long been closely, actively and successfully associated with agricultural interests in this county. He is now practically living retired, making his home with his son George, his wife having died April 4, 1904.

George H. Wheelock spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home and was provided with liberal educational privileges, supplementing his early public-school course by study in Fulton College, from which he was graduated in 1883. He then engaged in teaching school for six years and afterward spent two years upon the road, selling school supplies. He next engaged with a monument company, which he represented as traveling salesman for a year, after which he began business on his own account in the same line, dealing in monuments for eight years. On the expiration of that period he again took up the work of teaching at Spring Hill, where he remained for a year, after which he located on the old homestead farm, which he has since cultivated and improved. He makes a specialty of the raising and feeding of Durham cattle and Jersey Red hogs and his live-stock interests are a profitable source of income to him annually. He also owns six residences in the village of Erie, from which he derives a good rental.

On the 8th of January, 1898, Mr. Wheelock was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Swarthout, the widow of E. A. Swarthout and a daughter of Ira and

Mary E. (Grimes) Sherwood. Mrs. Wheelock was born in Lyndon, Illinois, in 1872 and for three years conducted a millinery store at Rock Falls, this county. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and died June 3, 1895. He served his country as a soldier in the Civil war. His widow, a native of Ohio, still survives and is now living with her children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wheelock have been born two sons: George Harold, born July 20, 1899; and Howard Andrew, born February 21, 1905. Mrs. Wheelock is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and both are highly esteemed in the community where they reside. Politically Mr. Wheelock is a democrat and is now serving as school director. The honors and emoluments of office, however, have had little attraction for him, as he has always preferred to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs which, under his capable direction, have brought to him a goodly measure of success. He has worked earnestly and persistently and his unwearied industry constitutes a strong factor in bringing to him the return which now numbers him among the substantial residents of Erie township.

JOHN L. THOMPSON.

John L. Thompson, now one of the prosperous and prominent agriculturists of Whiteside county, living on section 15, Fenton township, was born on the banks of the Rock river in a little log cabin, March 26, 1852. He is descended from old New England ancestry, his great-grandfather in the paternal line being a native of Vermont and one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war, serving with the American army. When victory crowned the American arms and peace was declared he removed to what was then the "far west," settling upon the frontier in the state of New York. He became one of the pioneer settlers of Steuben county and purchased timber land from the Holland company, included in the celebrated Holland purchase. As the years passed he developed a farm, which remained his home for many years. In the evening of life he went to Ohio and made his home with his son Reuben, with whom he continued for two years, after which he returned to the Empire state, residing there until called to his final rest.

Reuben Thompson, the grandfather of John L. Thompson, was born in Steuben county, New York, and about 1815 went to Ohio, taking up his abode in Meigs county. There he was married to Miss Philinda Kent on the 20th of October, 1816, and they were identified with the early development of the Buckeye state until 1839, when they again journeyed toward the "far west." After a brief period spent in Whiteside county, Illinois, they continued on their way to Iowa, where Reuben Thompson made a claim on Mill creek in Adair county. Following the erection of a log house he began the cultivation and improvement of the farm. He returned to Illinois, where he expected to meet his brother Harvey, who had to take supplies to Iowa but on reaching his destination he learned that his brother had gone to Chicago with his teams to engage in hauling flour from that city to Prairie du



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Chien, Wisconsin. This necessitated Reuben Thompson abandoning his trip to Ohio for his family. He had been accompanied to the west by his sons Elias K. and Reuben M. On returning to Illinois he had left one of his sons in Iowa in charge of a drove of hogs, which they had taken with them on their first trip to that state. In the spring of 1841 Reuben Thompson made his way to the Buckeye state, then brought his family to Whiteside county, Illinois, entering a claim on section 35, Fenton township. As the years passed he continued the work of developing and improving his property and was always a leader in the work of progressive agriculture. He set out about two hundred and fifty fruit trees on his land and made many other substantial improvements superior to those found on most of the farms of the early days. His first wife had died in 1827. There had been five children of that marriage. The father was afterward married to Mrs. Esther McMillan Robinson, a widow, and they, too, had several children. His second wife has passed away and the death of Reuben Thompson, the grandfather of our subject, occurred in 1850.

Reuben Mather Thompson, the father of John L. Thompson, was born in Salem township, Meigs county, Ohio, December 27, 1825, and was fourteen years of age when his father took him to Iowa. He there aided in improving the property which his father procured, and in the winter of 1839-40 he was left alone in Iowa to care for the stock during the absence of his father, who had expected to arrange to bring his family to the middle west. He was three miles from any other habitation and had nothing to eat but corn, which he hulled. The winter seemed a very hard and long one, and in fact the situation was a difficult one for a boy of his years. But like most of the boys of the frontier he possessed excellent determination and adaptability which enabled him to make the best of his circumstances. In 1841 he came to Whiteside county and associated with Charles Clarke, put in a crop on section 31, Fenton township to raise feed for the stock the succeeding winter. In December of 1841 the other members of the family also came to Whiteside county. Reuben M. Thompson assisted in the development of the home farm until he attained his majority, when he entered into a contract with an early pioneer settler, J. M. Pratt, whereby he was to receive forty acres of land in exchange for his labor in splitting rails. He also earned money by working in the neighborhood and with the increased capital he purchased additional land. In the spring of 1842 he spent a short time in Black Hawk county, Iowa.

On Christmas day of that year Reuben M. Thompson was married to Miss Matilda S. Dodge, a daughter of John B. Dodge, a prominent pioneer settler, who arrived in Whiteside county in 1837, establishing his home in Mount Pleasant township. He was a man of strongly marked character who left the impress of his individuality upon the pioneer history of the county. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for he passed away in 1843, at the age of thirty-five years. He had in the meantime done effective work toward planting the seeds of civilization upon the frontier, and had served his country as a soldier in the Black Hawk war. His wife bore the maiden name of Lydia B. Smith.

Following his marriage, Reuben Mather Thompson and his bride located on a farm which was long his home, beginning their domestic life in a log cabin, which was first occupied by his father's family. Later they removed to a new frame dwelling erected on the northeast corner of section 35, Fenton township. As the years passed Mr. Thompson prospered in his undertakings and became one of the largest landowners of this section of the state, having more than two thousand acres at the time of his death, which occurred November 20, 1900. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, he was also largely interested in raising fine stock and conducted both a dairy and creamery, the excellence of his product insuring a ready sale on the St. Louis market. In community affairs he was prominent and influential and was called to a number of local offices, being first constable of Fenton township, where he also served as collector. He was supervisor for several terms, filling that position at the time of the Civil war. Unto him and his wife were born ten children, eight of whom reached adult age: Philinda, the wife of Lewis Ewing; John L., whose name introduces this review; Albert L., who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; Clara, the wife of Marvin Fadden; Vora; Leona M.; Ray; and Henry Clay. Two children, James A. and Frank E., are both deceased. The mother passed away April 20, 1878, and Mr. Thompson afterward married Amanda McMillan, a daughter of William and Nancy (Butler) McMillan, and the widow of H. P. White, of New Hampshire. He continued an honored and leading resident of Whiteside county for almost six decades and passed away in 1900, respected by all who knew him. His life record may well serve as a source of inspiration to others, for, although the conditions of his life in early youth were those of the frontier, hardships and privations being incident to his early experience here, in the course of years he made such progress that he was numbered among the wealthy agriculturists of this portion of the state, having extensive landed interests.

John L. Thompson, son of Reuben Mather Thompson, has spent his entire life in Fenton township, and his attention has continuously been given to general farming and stock-raising. The farm upon which he now resides was purchased by his father in 1870, and is known as the old Harmon farm. On attaining his majority John L. Thompson took up his abode upon this place. For three years he rented land of his father in connection with his brother-in-law, H. L. Ewing, and his sister. On the expiration of that period he returned home, where he spent one summer and then again rented land. In this way he gained a start in life and with his earnings, which he had saved, purchased two hundred acres of land from his father on the bottoms, north of the old family home. After two years he traded that tract for a part of the farm upon which he now lives. He has made his home thereon continuously since, or for a period of twenty-nine years, and has extended the boundaries of his place by additional purchase until he now has a valuable farm of four hundred acres. This is all in one body, and while the home is situated on section 15, portions of the farm extend to sections 22 and 23, Fenton township. When he took possession a hewed log house sixteen by thirty-two feet stood on the farm, and is still seen here today, being one of

the oldest dwellings in this section of the state and one of the landmarks which indicate the progress that has been made since the pioneers claimed the land and began the work of civilization here. In the summer of 1890 Mr. Thompson erected his present fine home, a fourteen room residence, built in modern style of architecture and equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories. It is one of the finest homes in Fenton township, if not the finest; being among the best country residences in the county. It stands on an elevation, commanding a splendid view of the surrounding country. The broad lawn is adorned with many fine arbor vitae trees, tastefully trimmed, and flowers and shrubs also add to the beauty and attractiveness of the place. All of the barns, sheds and cribs have been built by Mr. Thompson, and there is no feature of the model farm of the twentieth century lacking. In addition to tilling the soil, Mr. Thompson is widely known as a raiser of short-horn cattle, having about thirty-five head in his herd. He also raises about one hundred and fifty head of hogs per year. Rock creek crosses his farm in the front of his home and offers a pleasing feature in the landscape.

On the 23d of December, 1880, was celebrated the marriage of John L. Thompson and Miss Carrie E. Hamlin, who was born in Erie, Whiteside county, February 16, 1861. Her parents were Sylvester Benjamin and Nancy (McGarr) Hamlin. Her father was born in Elmira, New York, June 30, 1818, while the mother's birth occurred at Sandy Creek, Pennsylvania, September 5, 1826. They were married at the latter place, March 12, 1844, and after residing for a time in Ohio became residents of Erie, Illinois. Mrs. Thompson is the sixth in order of birth in a family of seven children, the others being: Oliver C., now a resident of Peoria, and county engineer of Peoria county, Illinois, who married Susan Aldapher, by whom he had four children, of whom two died in infancy; Ammi Rogers, a street railway conductor of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who wedded Lucy V. Roe, by whom he has two sons, Fred N. and Roy; Alfred Albert, who died in youth; Addie E. the wife of John B. Wood, a resident of Fenton, this county, by whom she has five children: Harry, Carrie N. and Callie E., twins, Fred and Willis; Ida Ellen, who departed this life at the age of twelve years; and Frank B. who wedded Mary Anna Mutschler, and follows farming near Erie.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson has been blessed with two sons: Roy J., born January 13, 1885; and Matt C., born May 20, 1888. Both are at home with their parents and assist the father in carrying on the farm. The family is one of prominence in the community. The student of history cannot carry his investigations into the annals of Whiteside county without learning that the Thompsons have figured prominently in connection with the events which have shaped its policy and molded its upbuilding and the work which was instituted by the grandfather and continued by the father is now being carried on by the son, who today stands as one of the most prominent agriculturists of this region. He is a Bryan democrat, unfaltering in his allegiance to the party. He belongs to the Christian church at Erie, of which he has been trustee for a number of years, and he likewise holds membership relations with Ewing Lodge, No. 175, M. W. A., with the Royal Neighbors and the Mystic Workers.

Mr. Thompson owns a ten-acre tract of timber land on section 19, Fenton township and a farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 17, Lyndon township, so that his total possessions aggregate five hundred and thirty acres. His memory constitutes a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. His entire life, covering fifty-six years, has here been spent. He can well remember when the Indians were still to be found in this part of the state and "Big John" and his squaw took dinner with his father's family. The red men often called at the Thompson home and were given food. Mr. Thompson saw about seven hundred encamped at Indian Island in the northeast corner of Fenton township. He also relates the story of how an old Indian came to his father and borrowed a big iron kettle in which to boil soup and carried it to his camp on his head, a distance of a mile and a half. When a small boy he went to an Indian habitation and had breakfast with some of the red men that were encamped near his home. Seeing the squaw baking the cakes, like most boys, his appetite became an insistent factor in his life just then, and he gladly shared in the offer to partake of food. Events which to the majority of Whiteside county's settlers are matters of history are to him, matters of personal experience either as a witness or as a participant in the events. As the years have gone by he has aided in reclaiming this district and bringing it to its present state of improvement and by the development of the natural resources of the state he has derived substantial benefits to reward his earnest and persistent labor.

ALBERT L. THOMPSON.

No history of Whiteside county would be complete without extensive and prominent reference to the Thompson family, of which Albert L. Thompson is a representative. The name has been associated with the progress and development of this part of the state from a very early period in its settlement by the white race. Indians were still numerous here when his parents took up their abode within its borders and there were still many evidences of pioneer life and experiences when Albert L. Thompson came into this world on the 13th of July, 1857, his birth occurring on the old family homestead in Fenton township. He still lives in this township, being now located a half mile south of the village of Fenton on section 15. His place is known as the Rock View stock farm and is one of the valuable and desirable properties of this portion of the state. He was reared to farm life while spending his boyhood days in the home of his parents, Reuben M. and Matilda S. (Dodge) Thompson.

The father, a native of Meigs county, Ohio, was born December 27, 1825, and in the year 1839 made his way westward to Whiteside county, Illinois, in company with a brother and their father, who also bore the name of Reuben Thompson. He stopped first at Union Grove Mill and during the fall of that year made his way to Iowa, where the winter was passed. In the

spring he returned to Whiteside county and settled in what is now Fenton township, where he continued to make his home for many years. The county lost one of its most honored and valued pioneer settlers, when on the 20th of November, 1900, he was called to his final rest. In early days he experienced all the difficulties incident to the reclamation of wild land and to the establishment of a home upon the frontier, but his indefatigable labor brought him success as time passed by and he became the owner of two thousand acres of land in Fenton and Lyndon townships. While he led a busy, active and useful life in the control of his business, he also found time to participate in measures and movements relative to the public welfare. He took an active interest in Farmers' Institutes and in all that pertained to the agricultural development of the community. He helped to organize institutes at Pratt, Delhi and Fenton.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Reuben M. Thompson wedded Miss Matilda S. Dodge, a native of Stark county, Illinois, and unto them were born the following named: Esther Philinda, John L., James Amasa, Albert Levi, Clara Lydia, Francis Eli, Rhoda M., Eva Leona, Martin Ray and Henry Clay. A more extended mention of the Thompson family and ancestry is given on another page of this volume in connection with the sketch of John L. Thompson.

In December, 1878, Albert L. Thompson was married to Miss Myra Plummer, a daughter of William and Rachel (Teneyck) Plummer. Her father was born in Bowling Green, Kentucky, September 1, 1812, and departed this life September 2, 1852. The mother's birth occurred in Frankfort, Kentucky, January 31, 1822. Mr. Plummer operated a woolen factory in Ohio and Illinois. His family numbered four children: Jane, the wife of William Davis, of Erie; Theodore, also a resident of Erie; Mrs. Albert L. Thompson, of Fenton; and Josiah, who lives in Superior, Dixon county, Iowa. The birth of Mrs. Thompson occurred in Chillicothe, Ohio, April 1, 1849. In the spring of 1850 her parents removed to Burlington, Iowa, but after a short time went to Warren county, Illinois, and at the age of four years Mrs. Thompson came to Whiteside county, her father's death having occurred in Warren county. She was reared near Erie and by her marriage has become the mother of three children: Emmett C., born August 1, 1880, married Agnes Roren and resides in Chicago. Bertha, born June 28, 1882, is the wife of Frank Cocking, a resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Emery E., born May 11, 1884, is also located in Chicago. The children were provided with good educational advantages, all three having attended the Port Byron Academy, while Emmett and Bertha graduated from that institution. Subsequently all attended the Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio, Emmett graduating therefrom.

Albert L. Thompson is independent in his political views, although he was reared in the faith of the republican party. He keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day and casts an independent ballot. He has held the offices of school trustee and school director and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion. Fraternally he is connected with Ewing Camp, No. 75, M. W. A., while he and his wife belong to Fenton

Lodge, No. 45, of the Mystic Workers, having joined at the time of its organization. They are also members of the Christian church at Erie and their lives are actuated by high and honorable principles and worthy motives. Their influence is always given on the side of right and progress, of justice and truth. The name of Thompson has ever been an honored one in the county and the record of our subject is one which reflects credit upon an untarnished family record.

JAMES A. QUADE.

A valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 10, Erie township, pays tribute to the care and labor which James A. Quade, its owner, bestows upon it. He was born in this township September 30, 1868, his parents being John and Emma (Hamilton) Quade. The father, a native of Germany, was born in 1832 and came to America in 1848 when a youth of sixteen years. He made his way westward to Chicago and in the vicinity of that city worked as a farm hand for several years, thus providing for his living at an early day. In 1861, in company with a companion, he drove some cattle and hogs from Chicago to this county and after reaching his destination was employed as a farm hand in this county for two years. Ambitious to own a farm of his own, he saved his earnings and in 1863 invested in one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 22, Erie township. With characteristic energy he began to cultivate the fields and improve his property and as the years passed transformed it into a good farm; this farm he disposed of save 54 acres, to which he afterward added a tract of eighty-seven acres. He was one of the men who ran down the Philips and Brown gang, a band of horse thieves, capturing the men and sending them to Joliet. They stole a steer, a watch and one hundred dollars in cash from Mr. Quade. Philips reformed and after being released from the penitentiary was for some time in the employ of Mr. Quade. In early manhood the latter wedded Miss Emma Hamilton, who was born in Erie township, Whiteside county, and throughout the period of their married life they resided in this locality, their many good qualities winning for them the respect of all who knew them. The father died June 16, 1907, leaving to his family not only an excellent farm but also the priceless heritage of an untarnished name. His widow still survives and is yet a resident of the village of Erie. Their family numbered six children: James A.; Julia and John, both at home; Nora, the wife of Charles Conrad, a resident farmer of Erie township; and two who are now deceased.

James A. Quade remained with his father upon the old homestead farm until twenty-five years of age and when a youth of about six years began his education as a public-school student. He afterward attended school in Geneseo, Illinois, and when not occupied with his text-books he assisted his father in the operation of the home farm, so that his early training in agricultural lines well qualified him to carry on farming on his own account in later years. Leaving home at the age of twenty-five, he rented a farm which he cultivated

for eight years and then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 10, Erie township. It has since been his place of abode and he has extended its boundaries by the purchase of an adjoining tract of eighty acres, so that he now has in his home farm two hundred and forty acres of as fine land as can be found in Whiteside county. He has transformed it into a valuable property and everything about the place is indicative of his care and supervision.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Quade was married March 21, 1894, to Miss Amelia Glatthaar who was born in Henry county, Illinois, January 15, 1873. Her father is now deceased, while her mother resides in Geneseo, this state. Their family numbered six children, while unto Mr. and Mrs. Quade have been born two children: Flossie V. and Millard.

Mr. Quade votes with the democracy and is recognized in this community as a stalwart champion of the party. He has served as school trustee for fifteen years and matters of public moment elicit his deep interest and secure his active cooperation. He is a member of the Domestic Workers Lodge, No. 5, at Erie, and of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 43, at Hillsdale, Illinois. Starting out in life on his own account, the success that Mr. Quade has achieved is attributable entirely to his own efforts, and the assistance of his estimable wife, who has indeed been a companion and helpmate to him on life's journey. They are now the owners of a valuable farming property which returns to them a good income.

EDWARD O. PETERSON.

Edward O. Peterson, who is residing upon the old homestead farm, which he is now successfully cultivating on section 26, Tampico township, was born in Whiteside county, November 13, 1878. His parents, Ola and Karna Peterson, were natives of Sweden and came to the United States in 1868, settling first in Bureau county, Illinois, where the father cultivated a rented farm for twenty years. During that time his careful expenditure and well directed energy brought him success and he invested the money that he had saved in one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 26, Tampico township, and at once began its development and improvement. Upon that property he built a fine residence and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock and brought his land under a high state of cultivation. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were born eight children: Peter, who is now living in Bureau county; Albert, who is engaged in the real-estate business in Chicago; Carrie, who is living with her widowed mother in the village of Tampico; Nelson, whose home is in De Kalb county; Frank, who is located in Minnesota; Edward O.; Swan, deceased; and Karl, at home. The father died July 16, 1895, while the mother now resides in the village of Tampico.

Edward O. Peterson was reared upon the home farm in the usual manner of lads of the period, attending the public schools and working in the fields through the summer months. At the age of twenty-two years he started

out in life on his own account, being employed in a livery stable for a time, while later he was appointed deputy jailer at Princeton, Illinois, serving there for two years under Bert Skugland. He then came to Prophetstown and for one year managed the hardware store owned by his brother, Albert Peterson. Later he spent one year as a bartender at Sandwich, Illinois, after which he took charge of the home farm upon which he now resides. His time and energies are being given to the general development and improvement of this property and he is numbered among the representative agriculturists of the community.

Mr. Peterson was married February 5, 1907, to Miss Jennie Poulter, who was born in Iowa, a daughter of John and Fannie Poulter, who were natives of England. They had a family of twelve children. Both Mr. and Mrs. Peterson attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Tampico and gives his political allegiance to the republican party.

PETER KNOX.

While a third of a century has passed since Peter Knox was called from this life, he is yet remembered by many residents of Whiteside county, particularly in the district in which he lived. He was born April 4, 1823, in Dumphrey township in the district of Gore, Canada, and accompanied his parents, James and Amy (Martin) Knox, on their removal to Whiteside county in 1835. He was therefore reared in this county from the age of twelve years, making his way into the district when it was a pioneer region upon the frontier. Only three years before, the white settlers had contested with the red race their right to rule over the broad prairies and hunt in the timber regions of Illinois. The red men had rebelled against the intrusion of the white faces and entered upon active warfare under the leadership of Black Hawk. Great stretches of the country were still unclaimed and were known as government land. The prairies were covered with their native grasses and wild flowers, and in the winter the winds had unbroken sweep over the districts, which were covered with an unbroken sheet of snow. The cabins were largely built of logs, cooking was done over the fire places and the houses were lighted with candles and later with kerosene lamps.

Mr. Knox became familiar with all of the conditions and environments of pioneer life and the hardships and trials incident to the extension of the frontier. As a boy and youth he assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm and remained a resident of this county until 1852, when he went to California, accompanied by his three brothers—Henry, Martin and James. They made the overland trip across the long stretches of sand and through the mountain passes until their eyes were gladdened by the sight of the green fields of California. The fabulous stories of rapidly acquired wealth led them to hope that they might have equal success there, but after a year Peter Knox yearned for the old home in Illinois and returned to Whiteside county, tak-



PETER KNOX

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ing up his abode in Mount Pleasant township. He settled on his present farm which now comprises two hundred and forty acres in section 16 and which is still owned by his widow, who leases it. Year after year he cultivated the fields and added to the equipments of the farm until he had one of the best improved places of the district. The fields brought forth rich harvests and he also raised considerable stock, which had good pasturage in the meadows. He thus led a busy, useful and active life and acquired a comfortable competence.

In 1860 Mr. Knox was united in marriage to Miss Emeline C. Hawley, who was born in Genesee county, New York, a daughter of Hiram and Sarah (Dexter) Hawley. Her father, who was an agriculturist, died in the Empire state and the mother died soon after coming to Whiteside county in 1858. Mrs. Knox was one of five children, namely: Royal, a resident of Morrison; Mrs. Susan M. Humphrey, who is the widow of G. B. Humphrey and is living with Mrs. Knox in Mount Pleasant township; Linas, who was a farmer during his active life and died in Morrison in 1874; and Truman M., who died in California in 1904. He was for a time a resident of Whiteside county and enlisted here for service in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, after having previously served for a time in a New York regiment.

Mr. Knox was a stalwart supporter of the republican party. As the years passed by he prospered in his undertakings and was enabled to enjoy rest and recreation in his later years. He was spending his second winter in California when his death occurred. Mrs. Knox spends most of the winter months in that sunny clime, while the summer seasons are passed in Whiteside county, where she has so long resided and where she has a most extensive acquaintance, while from the great majority who know her she receives warm friendship.

HARVEY SHERMAN GREEN.

Harvey Sherman Green, manager of and stockholder in the Morrison Gas & Electric Company, was born in Morrison on the 9th of April, 1866. In the paternal line he comes of English and Dutch ancestry and of Revolutionary stock, the family having been represented in the colonial army during the war for independence. The grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Green, was an early settler of northern New York. John Seymour Green, the father, was born in Walton, Delaware county, New York, in 1831, and for many years followed merchandising. He came to Illinois in the early '50s and occupied the position of station agent at Danville, Illinois. Later he went to Alton and prior to the Civil war was engaged in the newspaper business and as an accountant in Kansas City, Missouri. In the fall of 1862 he came to Whiteside county, settling in Morrison, where he established a drug business, entering into partnership with B. B. Higgins, of Dixon, who is now connected with a large wholesale and retail china and glass firm of New York city. They purchased Dr. William L. Coe's stock of drugs and began business in the first brick block of Morrison under the name of Green & Higgins. Mr. Higgins retired after a couple of years and was succeeded by George A. Whitcomb, who

later disposed of his interest to Mr. Green, who then conducted the business alone until his death, which occurred in 1888. The store was thereafter conducted in the name of Mr. Green until 1903, when the Green Drug Company was organized, the stockholders being Mrs. John S. Green and Charles W. Fitzgerald, the latter acting as manager. Mr. Green was a successful business man who started in life with small capital but as the years passed accumulated considerable property and became quite prosperous. He enjoyed in large measure the confidence and esteem of his fellowmen, having shown himself thoroughly worthy of their trust and good will. He was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and in politics was always a stalwart republican. For many years he served as city treasurer and also on the city council and the school board, his official duties being discharged with a sense of conscientious obligation. He wedded Miss Cornelia Williams, who was born in East Pembroke, New York, in 1844, and is still living in Morrison. On the maternal side she is connected with the Schuylers, Van Slichtenhorsts, Herkimers, Ver Plancks and other families prominent in the founding of Manhattan; on the paternal with the Edwards, Buchs and Robinsons, of early Connecticut and Massachusetts. Her father, Hervey Edwards Williams, was a contractor on the enlargement of the Erie canal and when railroad building began in the west in the early '50s, he made his way to this part of the country and contracted for the grading and building of the Illinois Central from Peru to Rockford. He brought his family to the west in 1853 and after the war located on a farm in Lee county, south of Dixon, where he remained until his death. He was a successful man in his undertakings and through railroad building was closely associated with the early development and progress of this part of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Green were married in Dixon, January 5, 1864. Their family consists of four children: Ivy, the wife of T. F. Hummel, who is engaged in the insurance business in Cincinnati, Ohio; Olive Williams, the wife of Charles Gallentine, proprietor of the Gallentine cucumber and tomato houses at Morrison; Florence Myrtle, the wife of John L. Brearton, an attorney at law of Savanna; and Harvey Sherman.

The last named was a pupil in the public school of Morrison, passing through successive grades until he was graduated from the high school with the class of 1884. He afterward worked for Potter, Green & Company, dealers in coal, grain and lumber, for three years and then went to Idaho in 1887. There he worked for the O. R. & N. Railroad Company as a surveyor for about one year, after which he returned to Morrison and accepted a clerical position in the bank of Leander Smith & Sons, with whom he continued for two years. Removing to Primghar, Iowa, he there engaged in the banking and land title business for a year. Again returning to Morrison he bought an interest in the Morrison Gas & Electric Company, of which he became manager, since which time he has been in control of the business. For five years during this time he had been engaged in building electric lighting plants in different parts of the country.

On the 10th of October, 1889, Mr. Green was married to Miss Vallie Sholes, who was born in Morrison in 1866 and is a daughter of C. W. and

Jennie (Baldwin) Sholes, the former one of the pioneer hardware merchants of this city and one of its first business men. Mr. and Mrs. Green have three children: Helen Sholes, John S. and Sherman B.

Mr. Green belongs to the Masonic fraternity and when made a Knight Templar was the youngest Mason of that rank in the state. When made a Shriner he was also the youngest representative of the Shrine in the United States. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and gives his political allegiance to the republican party. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, elected him to the office of city treasurer, and from 1892 until 1907 he served as a member of the school board. Although he has sojourned in different parts of the country at intervals, the greater part of his life has been passed in Morrison and he is well known here as a citizen of worth and a reliable business man.

TOBIAS KAUFFMAN.

Tobias Kauffman is the owner of a well kept farm on section 29, Jordan township, and is numbered among the representative agriculturists of this part of the state. A native son of Pennsylvania, he was born in Lancaster county on the 23d of April, 1841, and is a son of Jacob and Ann Eliza (Snyder) Kauffman. The first nine years of his life were spent in the place of his nativity and he began his education in the public schools of Pennsylvania. He then accompanied his parents on their removal westward to Whiteside county in 1850, the journey being made by way of the water route, for at that time no railroads had been built and private conveyance and navigation afforded the only means of transportation. On reaching their destination the family settled in Sterling township but in 1851 removed to Jordan township, taking up their abode on section 32, where they lived until the fall of 1866.

Tobias Kauffman continued his education in the public schools of Whiteside county and was early trained to the work of the home farm, aiding in the task of plowing, planting and harvesting so that he gained broad practical experience concerning all the departments of farm work. After arriving at years of maturity he made preparations for having a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Harriet E. Kapp, a daughter of George and Mary L. (Hershey) Kapp. The wedding was celebrated on Christmas of 1866, and the young couple took up their abode upon a farm on section 29, Jordan township. During the first year Mr. Kauffman cultivated rented land but in the fall of 1867 he purchased sixty-nine acres from George Kapp and located thereon his first home. He still owns the old homestead property and as the years passed he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and added many modern improvements to the farm. In all of his work he has been diligent and persevering and has manifested the persistency of purpose which constitutes an indispensable factor in the acquirement of success.

Six children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman. Minnie M., born in 1867, was married in 1898 to Wilbur F. Marshall, a farmer residing in De

Kalb county, Illinois. Abraham L., born in 1869, was married in 1898 to Miss Jennie Ray, who died in 1906; Frank K., born in 1872, is in New York city; George J., born in 1875, was ruthlessly murdered in 1897. Clara S., born in 1877, and Jessie C., born in 1880, are at home. There are two grandchildren, sons of Abraham L. Kauffman—Ray and Clarence, both natives of Whiteside county, born in 1900 and 1903 respectively. The family attend the Fourth Street Methodist Episcopal church of Sterling and their influence is ever found on the side of right, justice, truth and progress.

Mr. Kauffman was a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting at Dixon, September 17, 1864, in Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as a recruit. He joined his regiment at Atlanta, Georgia, and was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. He did picket duty at Sisters Ferry and was one of the three men detailed from his company to look after repairs of the military roads. After participating in the grand review at Washington, D. C., in May, 1865, he was discharged from the service.

Mr. Kauffman has served for eighteen consecutive years as school trustee, and has also been school director for a number of years. He was likewise justice of the peace and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial. In fact, all of his political service has been characterized by unfaltering devotion to duty. In politics he is a stalwart republican, inflexible in his support of the principles in which he believed. During a residence in this county covering almost six decades, he has never tasted a drop of liquor or visited a saloon. He is not a prohibitionist, but believes in temperance in all things. He has witnessed much of the growth and development of the county and has been associated with many events which have left their impress upon its history. The county today bears little resemblance to the district into which the family made their way fifty-eight years ago. Today there are highly cultivated farms where was then seen wild prairie. At that time there were no large farm houses but little pioneer cabins sheltered the men and women who had made their way to the frontier to establish homes here. Year by year changes have occurred which have brought about the transformation of the present and Mr. Kauffman has borne his full share in the work of agricultural development which has transformed this region into one of the richest farming districts of the state.

IRWIN STEVENS.

Irwin Stevens, who is engaged in general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising on section 15, Prophetstown township, where he has one hundred and sixty acres of land, was born in New York, July 31, 1861, his parents being G. L. and Esther (Hollis) Stevens, likewise natives of New York. They are both still living and are the parents of nine children, as follows: Herbert, living in Denver, Colorado; Irwin, of this review; Ellen M., the wife of Brighton Salisbury, of New York; Emma H., the wife of Edward Inger-



IRWIN STEVENS

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soll; M. H. and Edward, who reside in Oregon; Charles, who makes his home in St. Charles, Illinois; Raymond, of New York; and one who has departed this life.

Irwin Stevens was educated in the common schools and remained under the parental roof until twenty years of age, subsequently working as a laborer for a period of six years. At the end of that time he was married and then operated a tract of rented land for five years. In the year 1895 he removed to Whiteside county, Illinois, having purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 15, Prophetstown township. He has since brought his land under a high state of development and in addition to the work of general farming he makes a specialty of stock-raising and feeding, meeting with a gratifying measure of success in both branches of his business.

Mr. Stevens was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Ellen Ostler, a native of Woodford county, Illinois, and a daughter of William and Mary (Morris) Ostler, natives of England, who emigrated to the United States in 1851, stopping for a short time in New York and also in Chicago, but subsequently they removed to Peoria county, where the father farmed rented land until 1855. He then purchased forty acres in Woodford county, Illinois, where he made his home, adding one hundred and forty acres more to his holdings as his financial resources permitted. He was one of the early pioneers of this state, aiding in reclaiming the wild land for the purposes of civilization and improvement. His death occurred in 1905 and he had long survived his wife who was called to the home beyond in 1879. Their family numbered three children: J. W., of Woodford county; Mrs. Stevens, and Anna S. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stevens have also been born three children, namely: Harold E., Raymond O. and Ralph W.

In his political views Mr. Stevens is a stanch prohibitionist and both he and his wife are members of the Baptist church. He is well and favorably known throughout the community as a straightforward and reliable business man, a public-spirited citizen and trustworthy friend.

GRANT S. LANDIS.

Grant S. Landis is a representative farmer living on sections 26 and 23, Coloma township. He has been a life-long resident of Whiteside county and is a man of influence in his community, respected by all for the possession of many sterling traits of character which win him friendship and regard. He was born April 6, 1864, on the Fred Shuler farm in Sterling township, a son of Henry C. and Malinda (Summy) Landis, who were natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Judge Landis belongs to a different branch of the same family. The founder of the Landis family in America was Benjamin Landis, who crossed the Atlantic in 1718. He had four children: Benjamin, Jr., who was eighteen years of age at the time of the emigration to the new world; Abraham; Jacob; and Henry. The second named was born in April, 1744, and died March 4, 1825. He married Marie Brubaker, who

was born February 8, 1747, and died September 8, 1828. Their children were: Anna, Benjamin, Marie, John, Henry, Peter, Abraham, Barbara, Elizabeth and Susanna. Of this family, Abraham, born April 11, 1780, died April 21, 1861, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Anna Neff, was born April 19, 1781, and died January 11, 1866. Their children were Henry, Simon, Abraham, Mary, Elizabeth, John, Anna and Benjamin. Of these, Abraham was born November 22, 1807, and died September 16, 1890, having for many years survived his wife, who bore the maiden name of Maria Pickel. She was born January 6, 1808, and died April 16, 1873. In the family of Abraham and Maria (Pickel) Landis were nine children: Elmina, Nancy, Mary, Henry C., Elizabeth, Abraham, John, Harriet and Benjamin, of which family Henry C. Landis, the fourth in order of birth, was the father of our subject.

Henry C. Landis was born May 6, 1833, and died March 11, 1902. On the 3d of February, 1859, he was married to Malinda Summy, also a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, born May 25, 1840. They removed to the west in 1859, making their way to Whiteside county, Illinois, and settling in Sterling. To this union were born seven children: William, Ada C., Grant S., Laura, Anna, May, and Clayton, of whom only two are living, Ada C. and Grant S.

In the maternal line the ancestry of the family is traced back to a very early period. Hans Peter Summy was a Palatine Mennonite exile from Canton-Aurgan, Switzerland. The name in Europe is written Somme and Somee, which would indicate a French origin from the river or country of Somme, in northern France. But judging from their religion and other characteristics of these people, it is more likely that they were of the Walden exiles of Italy in the earlier history of the church and assumed the name of the place whereunto they escaped from their Italian expatriation. Like many of the Mennonite Palatinates, they became the future settlers and inhabitants of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. We have a traditional account of members of this family, who, to escape a relentless persecution, fled from Aurgan to Offenburg, in middle Baden, and on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, by Louis XIV, of France, in 1685, they removed to Alsace for the same cause and again on the cession of Alsace to France upon the treaty of Ryswick in 1697, they removed to Holland for protection, becoming refugees under the rule of William of Orange or his successor, the people there enjoying religious freedom. From Rotterdam came the American ancestor of the Summy family to the colony of Pennsylvania, by way of Plymouth, England, on the brigantine Richmond and Elizabeth, Christopher Clymer, master, arriving in Philadelphia in 1733. Hans Peter Summy was accompanied by his wife and sons: Hans Jacob, Hans Peter, Otto Fritz, Johannes and Hans Michael, the last two being minors. If there were any daughters the names are not given in the colonial records, nor is the name of the wife given, but in a will executed by Hans Jacob Summy in 1761 he makes provision for the maintenance of his wife and mother, which is proof that she came with him to America.

On his arrival Hans Peter joined the Mennonites in Lancaster county. These Mennonites were the first settlers in the valleys of Pequea and Cones-

toga, leaving the fatherland and their homes and possessions at the beginning of the eighteenth century to find in the American wilderness a refuge from relentless persecution, such as no other people had suffered, and peace and spiritual freedom among the red men that the bigotry and intolerance of civilized Europe would not allow them at that time.

How or why the change in the spelling of the name occurred, is not known, but it was no unusual thing for a surname to take a different form upon the change from one language to another. Some of the family went south and located on the Catawba river, in North Carolina, where descendants of theirs still live, including Dr. Albert T. Summy, of Asheville, North Carolina, and the Rev. George Summy, of Covington, Kentucky, while the Summys of Tennessee are also descended from the same ancestry.

Johannes Summy lived in Pennsylvania. His children were Abraham, John and Michael and the last named reared a family in Somerset county, Pennsylvania. The Rev. Abraham Summy of Regenew, Westmoreland county, is a descendant and the Summys of Jo Daviess county, Illinois, sprung from this source. Of John and Abraham, sons of Johannes, we have no history.

Hans Jacob Summy, like most all of the Palatine Menonnites with double names, was known in this country by the name of Jacob only. He, with his parents, settled in Graff Dale, Earl township, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, bought lands and engaged in farming like his fellowmen exiles, who with strong arms and stout hearts began converting the wilderness into a rich agricultural district. Hans Jacob married Barbara Hiestand Bear, the widow of John Bear, and their children were: John, Henry, Jacob, Susanna, Peter and Margaret. Jacob and his wife died aged people on their old homestead and are interred in the churchyard of the Graff Dale Menonnite meeting house. The will of Jacob was probated at Lancaster in 1762 and there duly recorded. Henry, the second son of Jacob and Barbara Summy, died in 1783, leaving no children. Jacob, the third son, married Margaret Markly, and to them were born three daughters and one son. Peter, the fourth son, wedded Mary Deilrich, and their children were: John, Barbara, Peter, Jacob, Samuel, Daniel, Christian and Henry. The three eldest were mutes and lived upon a part of the homestead and are buried with their parents and grandparents by the Graff Dale meeting house. Jacob died in York county, Pennsylvania, aged ninety-four years, leaving a son and daughter, who live in Indiana. Samuel died in Maryland, leaving no descendants, and of Daniel there is no record. Christian Summy died in Virginia, aged ninety-seven years, at the home of his son Christian, who is still living.

The Rev. Christian Summy, of the Reformed church, is a son of Christian Summy, Jr., and their descendants live in Iowa. Henry lived and died in Lancaster county, and he had two sons, Allen and Levi. The former died without male issue and the latter had daughters and one son, James Buchanan Summy, a printer, of Philadelphia.

The eldest son of Jacob and Barbara Summy was born in Earl township, Lancaster county, and married Mary Scherek in 1765. Their children were Peter, Elizabeth and John. Disposing of their part of the original planta-

tion in Earl, they bought a farm in East Hemfield, Lancaster county, where the wife died. By a subsequent marriage to Anna Newcomer the father had six children: Christian, Margaret, Jacob, David, Nancy and Henry.

Peter Summy, the first born of John and Mary Summy, was born at Earl, October 17, 1766, married Barbara Long, of Rapho, and lived at Hemfield. Their children were Maria, Elizabeth, Barbara and John, of whom Elizabeth married a Mr. Long, of Manheim township, and had two sons. John married a Miss Swan, and their children were: John, Peter, Christian, Elizabeth, Jacob, David, Daniel and Henry.

Grant S. Landis was educated in the schools of Rock Falls and was reared in the usual manner of farm lads of the period, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors of the fields. He was married on the 23d of December, 1886, to Miss Anna Dickson, a daughter of John and Annie (Campbell) Dickson. Her father was of Scotch descent, but spent his early life in England and thence came to America. He was employed for many years by the Keystone Company, of Rock Falls. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Landis have been born four children, of whom three are living, namely: Helen D., Chester LeRoy and Grant Alva.

Mr. Landis is one of the enterprising men of Whiteside county, carefully conducting his business interests and at all times manifesting an integrity and reliability that have won for him the highest regard. He votes the republican ticket and is now serving as school director, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He and his family are connected with the Methodist church, and Mr. Landis is a member of Rock Falls Lodge, No. 590, I. O. O. F. His mother still lives with him and is a remarkably well preserved woman for one of her years. She is also a most interesting character, descended from a long-lived race, and tracing her lineage back across the centuries. Mr. Landis, having spent his entire life in this county, is one of its well known citizens and has witnessed much of its growth and development, while in the work of agricultural progress he has borne his part and in other ways has contributed to the substantial up-building and improvement of the county.

JOHN HENRY SNYDER.

John Henry Snyder, who is classed with the alert, wideawake and enterprising merchants of Morrison, is engaged in the drug business and also derives a considerable income from investments in real estate. Of determined spirit and strong purpose, he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes, allowing no obstacles to bar his path if they can be overcome by determined and honorable effort.

Mr. Snyder is a native of Argusville, Schoharie county, New York, born August 16, 1840, and is one of the four children of James and Nancy (Runkle) Snyder, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The father, who was born in Schoharie county in 1808, followed merchandising

for many years and died in 1900. His wife has also passed away. Their children were: Mary, the wife of L. H. Robertson; Harriet N.; John H.; and James A.

John Henry Snyder was reared to farm life in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, Illinois, and in the country schools mastered those branches of learning which usually constitute the curriculum of the public school. During periods of vacation he worked in the fields, and after putting aside his text-books he remained upon the farm until twenty years of age, when he became connected with commercial pursuits as a clerk in a dry-goods store. After four years spent in that way he became an equal partner in the firm with William M. and Charles Spears, the business being then conducted under the firm style of Spears Brother & Company. Mr. Snyder remained with this concern for four years longer, when he went to Clarence, Iowa, where he was engaged in the dry-goods business for eight years in connection with his brother, James A., under the firm style of Snyder Brothers. The business was carried on at that place for twenty years after John H. Snyder returned to Morrison, being in charge of James A. Snyder. Returning to Morrison, Mr. Snyder of this review in 1876 again engaged in the dry-goods business with his brother James as a member of the firm, under the style of Snyder Brothers, and the store was successfully conducted until 1886, when the store in Iowa and the one in Morrison were closed out and the partnership was discontinued.

Later John H. Snyder formed a partnership with A. R. Lewis for the conduct of a drug store under the style of J. H. Snyder & Company, a relation that was maintained until 1900, when Mr. Snyder bought out his partner's interest and conducted the business alone until January, 1907, when Paul F. Boyd acquired a half interest in the business, that is now carried on under the firm style of J. H. Snyder & Company. At one time Mr. Snyder had large landholdings, but now leases these. He has an attractive modern residence in Morrison and also owns the business block which he occupies, and which he built in 1894. It is a two-story structure with pressed brick front, twenty-seven by one hundred and forty-five feet. It has plate glass windows throughout and hardwood finish. It is thoroughly modern in its equipment and appointment, and would be a credit to a city of much larger size.

On the 10th of July, 1867, Mr. Snyder was married to Miss Mary Furlong, who was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, in 1847, and died November 30, 1907. Her parents were John and Sarah Furlong, who came to Illinois in 1855, settling at Morrison, the father being connected with the construction company of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have been born two daughters: Jessie H., who was born in Clarence, Iowa, and is now the wife of James A. Anguish, a merchant of Morrison; and Aline, also a native of Clarence, Iowa, and now the wife of Herbert N. Boyd, a commission merchant of Cheyenne, Wyoming. They have two children, Kathryn H. and Isabel.

Mrs. Snyder was a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Snyder belongs to the Masonic fraternity in its various branches and is a republican

in politics. He manifests a citizen's interest in the political questions and issues of the day, and in community affairs he gives active cooperation to many movements which have for their object the benefit and welfare of the community. Throughout his entire life he has been watchful of opportunities pointing to success and at all times has displayed an aptitude for successful management.

ORRIN M. BENT.

Orrin M. Bent, now a resident of Morrison, but formerly identified with its farming and stock-raising interests, in which connection he conducted a successful business, claims New York as the state of his nativity, his birth having there occurred in Lewis county, August 26, 1842. His father, Lemuel M. Bent, also born in Lewis county, died in February, 1905, at the very venerable age of eighty-eight years. His father and the father of Charles Bent were cousins. Lemuel M. Bent followed farming as a life work and in the year 1858 came to Illinois, settling in Union Grove township, Whiteside county. He had previously visited the state in 1839 and had taken up his abode in La Salle, where he lived for a year. He afterward returned to the east and did not make a permanent location in the state until almost twenty years later, although he spent the winter of 1849 in Whiteside county. On locating here he bought land in Union Grove township, and with characteristic energy began its development and improvement, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation. All of his business affairs were carefully managed and he continued in the active work of the farm until 1882, when he retired and spent his remaining days in Morrison in the enjoyment of well earned ease. His political views were given to the republican party, while in his social relations he was a Mason and was in hearty sympathy with the purposes and spirit of the craft. He married Betsy Parks, who was born in Jefferson county, New York, in 1818, and died in February, 1892. She was a member of the Universalist church and a lady of many good traits of heart and mind. The family numbered but two children, the younger being Adelaide, the wife of Samuel R. Hall, a retired farmer of Morrison.

Orrin M. Bent spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, and when not receiving intellectual training in the public schools he was largely engaged in farm work. He afterward continued his studies in Mount Carroll and when his education was completed he concentrated his energies upon farming interests in Union Grove township, where he remained until 1891, when he removed to Morrison. He was quite successful as an agriculturist and still owns two hundred and twenty acres in Union Grove township, upon which he raises cattle and graded stock. His business judgment is sound and reliable and his enterprise and industry have constituted the salient characteristics in his business advancement.

In 1866 Mr. Bent was united in marriage to Miss Frances Twining, who was born in Jefferson county, New York, in 1849, a daughter of William F.



ORRIN M. AND LEMUEL M. BENT

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and Malinda Twining, who came to this state in the fall of 1863 and settled in Union Grove township, where the father became a prosperous agriculturist. Both he and his wife, however, are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bent has been born a daughter, Lottie F., whose natal day was in December, 1863. She is a native of Union Grove township and became the wife of Richard Z. Tilton, by whom she had four children, two now living. Mrs. Tilton now resides with her father.

Mr. Bent votes the republican ticket, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him. He has always preferred to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, and in this regard has met with signal success. He early came to realize that there is no royal road to wealth and did not hesitate to perform his duties day after day to the best of his ability with the result that he is a prosperous and well known citizen of Whiteside county.

FRANCIS M. CRANDALL.

Francis M. Crandall owns and cultivates a farm of one hundred and eighty-seven acres in Erie township, and with his grain raising also engages in the raising of stock with good success. He was born in Whiteside county, April 27, 1849, his parents being Lafayette and Lovina (Rowe) Crandall. They were both natives of the state of New York, and with their respective parents came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1835. Lafayette Crandall secured a tract of government land, which he entered as a claim, and erected thereon a log cabin, in which he lived in true pioneer style during the formative epoch in the history of the county. The family were living here at the time of the great cyclone of 1841, which destroyed the house and buildings upon the farm, killing two of the brothers of Mrs. Crandall and injuring several other children. For many years Lafayette Crandall continued in active identification with the agricultural development of this part of the state and was then called to his final rest, passing away February 13, 1898. His widow still survives and is yet living on the old homestead farm, at the age of eighty-one years.

Francis M. Crandall is the elder of two sons, his brother, George W., being also a resident of Erie township. He remained with his father upon the homestead farm until twenty-one years of age and in the meantime attended the public schools for the acquirement of a knowledge of those branches of the English language which qualify one for the transaction of business and for meeting life's responsible duties. When he had reached man's estate Mr. Crandall started out in life on his own account and for ten years cultivated rented land. During that period he carefully saved his earnings and as the years passed added to his capital. He now owns one hundred and eighty-seven acres of land in Erie township, where he resides. This he improved, making it an excellent farm property of the locality, and he also owns fifty-five acres in Rock Island county, Illinois. While cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, he also raises con-

siderable stock of good grades, and this branch of his business is proving profitable.

On Christmas day of 1872 Mr. Crandall was married to Miss Helen Stevenson, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1851, a daughter of Joseph and Sapphire (Berkershaw) Stevenson, who came to America in 1857, first establishing their home in Iowa, where they lived for nine years, when they crossed the Mississippi river into Rock Island county, Illinois, where Mr. Stevenson purchased land and improved a farm. He carried on general agricultural pursuits until his life's labors were ended in death on the 5th of September, 1876, his wife surviving until February 28, 1901, when she, too, passed away. They were the parents of five children: Joseph M., a resident of Erie; Ernest C., living in Moline, Illinois; Mrs. Crandall; Josiah, also a resident of Rock Island, Illinois; and Charles.

Mr. and Mrs. Crandall have become the parents of two children: Alma Sapphire, the wife of William J. Fenton, now of Oklahoma; and Walter L., who is conducting the home farm.

Mr. Crandall votes with the democracy, but has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs. His entire life has been spent in this county, where he has now lived for fifty-nine years. He is a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family and has himself seen much of the development and progress that has wrought the transformation here whereby Whiteside county ceased to be a wild, unsettled and unimproved district and became one of the rich agricultural sections of this great state, also possessing a large proportion of the important industrial and commercial interests of northern Illinois. The name of Crandall for almost three-fourths of a century has figured conspicuously and honorably in connection with the agricultural progress of the county, and Francis M. Crandall has borne his full share in bringing about the present development of the county in farming lines.

ROY G. WOODS.

The commercial and industrial interests which make Sterling a thrifty, enterprising city find a worthy representative in Roy G. Woods, a dealer in furniture, stoves, carpets and rugs. He also conducts an undertaking establishment and in his business life displays the marked enterprise and determination which enabled him to overcome difficulties and obstacles and steadily advance toward the goal of prosperity. He was born in Montmorency township, Whiteside county, November 10, 1880, and is one of the seven children of Edgar and Anna (McWhorter) Woods, both of whom were natives of Indiana. The father was a son of Peter Woods, who was born in Kentucky and became an early settler of Franklin county, Indiana, settling at Metamora. He was a farmer by occupation and about 1865 removed to Illinois, his last days being spent in Montmorency township, where he died in July, 1880. The family numbered three sons. The maternal

grandfather of Roy G. Woods was Tyler McWhorter, who married Rhoda Ward. They removed from Indiana to Illinois, settling in Montmorency township, where the death of Mr. McWhorter occurred. His widow still survives. They were the parents of seven children—four sons and three daughters.

Edgar Woods was a small boy when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Whiteside county. This was soon after the close of the Civil war. They settled in Montmorency township, where he was reared to manhood and became the owner of a farm of three hundred and sixty acres, which he brought under a high state of cultivation and transformed into a rich and productive tract of land. He died May 12, 1907, at the age of fifty-one years, and his wife is still living. He held membership in the Methodist church and was prominent in community affairs, serving as supervisor, school director and road commissioner. Mrs. Woods is also a member of the Methodist church and is an earnest Christian woman. By her marriage she became the mother of four sons and three daughters, namely: Roy G., Mabel A., Chester C., O. Gordon, W. Wayne, Charlotte and Grace.

Roy G. Woods spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the home farm and at the usual age began his education in the public schools, wherein he mastered the common branches of English learning. Later he attended the Sterling Business College and subsequently spent four years in different parts of the west and south. Upon his return to Sterling he engaged in the furniture and undertaking business at No. 108 West Third street. In November, 1907, he sold out his stock there and bought an entirely new stock and removed to his present quarters, at 101-103 West Third street, on the 9th of November. Here he has a fine, modern store and a large and fine line of goods, occupying three floors in the display of an attractive line of furniture, stoves, carpets, rugs and undertaking goods. He has made a study of the public taste, and his earnest desire to please his patrons, combined with honorable business methods, have gained for him the success which now makes him one of the prosperous merchants of the city.

On the 17th of August, 1904, Mr. Woods was married to Miss Pearl Hoofstitter, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Kauffman) Hoofstitter. They now have one child, Kreider Woods. Mrs. Woods' parents were natives of Pennsylvania and became early settlers of Whiteside county, Illinois. In their family were six sons and four daughters and six of the number are yet living. The father is a noted temperance lecturer, having devoted many years to that work. His wife died in April, 1890. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Woods was John Hoofstitter, a native of Pennsylvania, who in his business life followed merchandising. He married a Miss Hostetter. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Woods was Jacob Kauffman, a native of Pennsylvania and a farmer by occupation. His wife was Elizabeth (Meyers) Kauffman and they were early settlers of this county. Mr. Kauffman died in Sterling at an advanced age and is still survived by his wife. Their family numbered two sons and two daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Woods are members of the Congregational church and are greatly esteemed in the community where they reside. They are now living

at No. 1106 Sixth avenue, where Mr. Woods owns a good home. He belongs to the Odd Fellows society, the Modern Woodmen camp and the Knights of the Globe, while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. Although one of the younger merchants of Sterling his years seem no bar to his success. On the contrary, he displays the energy and determination which are strong concomitants in his prosperity and have enabled him to make steady progress in the business world.

WENDEL GAULRAPP.

Wendel Gaulrapp, who follows general farming on section 23, Hume township, was born in the province of Hessen, Germany, August 18, 1838, his parents being Peter and Margaret (Smith) Gaulrapp, both of whom were born in Germany in 1806. They were reared and married in their native country and in 1846 crossed the Atlantic with their family, settling first in New York city, where the father followed the stone-mason's trade for fifteen years. He then came to the middle west, settling in Whiteside county near Sterling, where he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, carrying on general farming until his demise. He died in 1888 and was survived for about two years by his wife, who passed away in 1890. Of their family of five children only two are now living, the brother of our subject being John Gaulrapp, a resident of Denver, Colorado.

Wendel Gaulrapp was only about eight years of age when his parents crossed the briny deep to the new world and at that time he began work in a match factory, being employed in that and other factories until he was apprenticed to learn the upholsterer's trade. His educational privileges were necessarily limited but to some extent he attended night school and he has since learned many valuable lessons in the school of experience. In 1858 when about twenty years of age, he came with his parents to this county and engaged in farming with his father until 1865. He then purchased eighty acres of land in Deer Grove township which he broke and cultivated, making his home thereon until he traded the improved tract for a farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he sold about 1868. He then bought eighty acres where his home now stands on section 23, Hume township. About 1873 he removed to Sterling and for two years thereafter conducted a dray line. He later established a furniture store, which he carried on for three years, when he sold out, and, withdrawing from the field of merchandising, returned to his farm. From time to time he has added to his property, each time buying eighty acres of valuable land, until he has four hundred acres, all in one body. His home place is finely improved and in the midst of the farm stands a beautiful residence, while near by are good and substantial buildings. He also has another set of buildings upon his land, his son occupying the second dwelling. As the years have passed he has not only carried on the work of plowing, planting and harvesting in the production of cereals but has also raised a large amount of stock and has found this a profitable source of income.

On the 16th of October, 1886, Mr. Gaulrapp was married to Miss Sarah Fisher, who was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, November 13, 1847, her parents being natives of Germany. They came to America about 1835, settling in Ohio, and the father died before the birth of his daughter, Mrs. Gaulrapp. In their family were nine children, six of whom are living, as follows: John, Manuel, Mrs. Lucy Malby, Mrs. Kate Smith and Mrs. Mary Folsom, all of whom are residents of Ohio; and Sarah, now Mrs. Gaulrapp. The mother afterward became the wife of Philip Baker and died in the year 1867, at the age of sixty years. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Gaulrapp has been blessed with seven children: Ella, the wife of Robert Lane, a resident of Hume township; William, who wedded Mary Schwank and resides in Coloma township; Anna, the wife of Evert Dennison, who lives in Canada; Frank, who wedded Susie Martin and makes his home in Hume township; Henry, who wedded Emma Delp and also resides in Hume township; Clarence, who wedded Maude Vandermark and lives in Hume township; and Aaron, who is at home.

Mrs. Gaulrapp is a member of the German Lutheran church. The family is well known in this community and the members of the household occupy an enviable position in the regard of many friends and neighbors. Mr. Gaulrapp served as school director for several years and gave his political allegiance to the democracy for a long period but his political preference is now for the republican party. He belongs to Sterling Camp, No. 12, M. W. A. A resident of the county for more than four decades, he has thus been a witness of much of its development and growth and has contributed his full share toward its material progress. His life record is another proof of the fact that success comes from enterprise and diligence as well as from favorable circumstances and the most honorable success is that which is gained through individual effort.

B. W. BURRIDGE.

B. W. Burridge is largely engaged in feeding and shipping stock, making his home upon a farm in Erie township, where he has one of the finest farms of the entire county, improved with many modern equipments and accessories. Mr. Burridge was born in Portland township, this county, September 13, 1861, his parents being Dr. J. S. and Emma (Young) Burridge, who were natives of England and came to the United States in early life, first locating in New York and afterward removing to Michigan. Later they came to Whiteside county, settling in Portland township. They had a family of seven children: Dr. E. H. Burridge, now residing at Palestine, Illinois; F. E., living in Erie; Mary, the wife of John Dix, of Tennessee; B. W., of this review; Rose, the wife of E. W. Gladhill, of Tennessee; and two who died in infancy. The mother passed away in 1874, while the father survived until 1905.

B. W. Burridge started out in life on his own account when a youth of fourteen years and was employed at farm labor for three years. He early real-

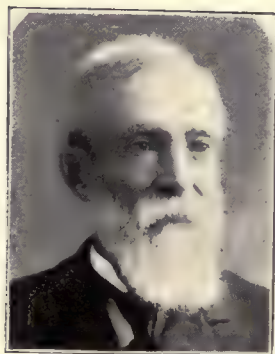
ized the value of industry and perseverance as active factors in a successful business career. He and his brother-in-law purchased a ferry boat and operated the same across the Rock river for seven years. In this way they gained a start and when their capital justified the act, they purchased two hundred and sixty-seven acres of land on sections 13 and 18, Erie township, which they still own. It is upon this farm that B. W. Burrridge makes his home and the property has been greatly improved by the many fine equipments which have been added. They erected a nice residence and the finest block barn in Whiteside county. The latest improved machinery has been secured to facilitate the work of the fields and ample shelter has been provided for grain and stock. In 1897 B. W. Burrridge rented the farm for a year and removed to Tennessee but on the expiration of that period returned to Whiteside county and has since resided upon the farm in Erie township. In his business he is engaged largely in feeding and shipping stock and being an excellent judge of stock is thus able to make judicious purchases and profitable sales.

On the 30th of November, 1892, occurred the marriage of Mr. Burrridge and Miss Elizabeth Dix, who was born in Wales in 1868 and was brought to America by her parents when about five years of age. Her father is now a resident of Connecticut, but her mother died in 1879. Mrs. Burrridge was one of a family of eleven children and by her marriage has become the mother of one daughter, Ethel, who is now a student in the high school of Erie.

Mr. Burrridge votes with the republican party and, as every true American citizen should do, keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. His wife is a member of the Christian church of Erie and both are highly esteemed in the community where they make their home, Mr. Burrridge having spent almost his entire life in Whiteside county. In his business dealings he is found reliable and trustworthy and his unwearied diligence and persistency of purpose have constituted strong elements in winning for him his present position of affluence.

JAMES MURRAY EATON.

The history of the Eaton family has become an integral chapter in the annals of Whiteside county, especially in connection with its agricultural development. A prominent and honored member of this family and therefore worthy of representation in this history is he whose name introduces this review, now a retired farmer and insurance man of Fulton. He was born at Willet, Cortland county, New York, October 31, 1835, his parents being John and Lucy E. (Daines) Eaton. He is of the seventh generation of the descendants of John Eaton, who came from England in 1635 and settled in Dedham, Massachusetts. Elijah Eaton, the grandfather, removed from Connecticut to New York prior to the French and Indian war, in which he was engaged. He was probably the first of the name to remove to the Empire state. J. M. Eaton is also a descendant in the eighth generation from George Bunker, who was the owner of "that hill of glory," called by his name a hundred years be-



J. M. EATON

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fore the battle which was one of the opening engagements of the Revolutionary war.

The maternal grandfather, John Daines, or Dains, lived on a farm four miles east of Marathon, Cortland county, New York, and died in the early '30's. He was a lad during the Revolutionary war, in which his father, John Daines, served, losing his life by a cannon shot which took off both his legs. His son John was told by General Bates, a friend of his father's, that before the father died he had the boy bound to him (a common custom in those days) until he should become of age. Accordingly John Daines entered the service of General Bates, whom he found to be an exacting taskmaster and when he could endure the treatment no longer he demanded the indenture papers from the General, who then confessed that he never had any. The young man then started out to make his way in the world, which he did honorably and nobly. A short time prior to his demise he learned that he was heir to about one-third of the land upon which stands the city of Hartford, Connecticut, but ill health prevented him attending to the prosecution of his claim, so that the property passed completely from him and his children.

John Eaton, father of J. Murray Eaton, spent his early years in eastern New York and in 1816 removed to Willet, Cortland county, cutting his way through three miles of heavy timber ere he reached his own farm, from which he had to clear the native forest growth. In the fall of 1835, accompanied by his brother-in-law, Alva Daines, he drove with a team of horses across the country to Illinois to the home of Caleb Daines, who a few years before had settled on the south side of Elkhorn Grove in what is now Carroll county. Mr. Eaton made a claim of four hundred and eighty acres for himself and two older sons and then returned home by way of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and across the country to Cortland county, New York. He had been married twice: first to Lydia Preston, December 22, 1805, and second to Lucy L. Daines, October 25, 1829. In September, 1836, he started westward with his family, save his daughters Melinda and Clarissa, who remained in the east. After traveling for six weeks they reached the home of Caleb Daines October 31, 1836, and soon were keeping house in a little log cabin which was covered with shakes and had a puncheon floor. It was only about sixteen feet square and the first winter the family lived largely on Johnny cake. Mrs. Eaton afterward remarking that during that first winter she baked enough Johnny cake to cover not less than a quarter section of land.

In the fall of 1837 John Eaton built a frame house on section 30, on the east side of a little prairie grove, which for years was a landmark of that part of the country. This was the first frame house erected between Chicago and the Mississippi river. There the family lived, enduring the hardships and privations of pioneer life, and energetically carrying on the work of bringing the little farm of eighty acres under a high state of cultivation and improvement. In those days the pioneer families had to depend almost entirely upon what they raised for supplies and yet it was a period when hospitality reigned supreme. At times, however, the food supply became very low and they had to resort to many means to get a sufficiency for the family larder. Much wild game, however, was to be secured at certain periods of the year

and though it was often difficult to obtain wheat flour the family used corn meal to make bread. Mr. Eaton lived upon his original farm until 1864, when he purchased a farm at the bluffs in Whiteside county, about four miles east of Fulton. To this he removed with his wife and the four younger children who were yet at home. He remained upon his Whiteside county farm for some time and then after a year spent in Fulton, went to live with his sons, James Murray and Thomas B., at Garden Plain, Illinois, where he remained until his death February 19, 1868. Mrs. Eaton continued to reside with her sons at Garden Plain and during the last five years of her life lived with her son, James Murray. She was born September 9, 1795, and died June 6, 1889, lacking but three days of being ninety-three years and six months of age. She was a woman of rare intellectuality and force of character, possessing the natural grace and culture of true womanhood, combined with executive ability of high order. She proved a most capable pioneer mother, for she could spin and weave cloth in most expert manner, and not only did her own housework and spinning for the members of her own household, but also found time to weave for others and thus secured means to buy schoolbooks for her children and to pay for their tuition in school. At the time of her marriage her husband was a widower with ten children and with the exception of the eldest all were yet at home. She won the fullest love, confidence and respect of her stepchildren, proving indeed a true mother to them.

The record of the sons and daughters of John Eaton is as follows: William, the eldest son, born June 29, 1806, in Cherry Valley, New York, came to Illinois in the fall of 1836 and settled in Carroll county on the claim which his father had secured for him. About 1846 or 1847 he sold his farm there to Barnabas Johnson and removed to Stephenson county, settling about two miles south of Freeport, where he died December 2, 1886. He first married Emeline Wilcox, by whom he had seven children—Urias, Caroline, Aden, Melissa, Nelson, Harriet and Clarissa, all of whom, together with their mother, are now deceased, save Melissa and Clarissa. For his second wife William Eaton chose Mary Polsgrove and his third wife was Mrs. Eliza Lumbeck, by whom he had a son, Levi Murray, now living at Sheridan, Illinois. His fourth wife was Mrs. Wheat, who survived him.

Elijah Eaton, the second son, was born at Cherry Valley, New York, July 21, 1808, and came with his parents to Elkhorn Grove in 1836. In the early 40's he disposed of his land there. He was a millwright by trade and built and operated a sawmill on Elkhorn creek. Subsequently he removed to Maquoketa, Iowa, where he worked at his trade until the early '50s, when he went with other parties into the woods of Clark county, Wisconsin, and about sixteen miles above the present site of Neilsville built a sawmill, which he operated until his death in 1872. About 1861 he married a widow, who survived him.

Melissa Eaton, the eldest daughter of John Eaton, was born in Otsego county, New York, November 10, 1810, came with her parents to Illinois in 1836 and in the spring of 1843 married William Lowry. A few years later they purchased a part of the claim entered by her father in 1835 and there Mrs. Lowry lived until her death in August, 1899, when nearly eighty-nine

years of age. Her husband died in September, 1879. Their children were: Elizabeth, the wife of John Worden; Alice, who married John Hart and died in May, 1903; Lydia, the wife of John Huntly; John, who died in childhood; and Elijah E., who married Anna Wythe and is living at Fulton, Illinois.

Melinda Eaton, the second daughter of John Eaton, was born in Otsego county, New York, November 6, 1813, and never came to Illinois to reside. She lived all her married life in Willet, New York, and died January 23, 1892.

Sylvia D., third daughter of John Eaton, was born February 12, 1816, came to Illinois with her parents in 1836 and was married to Lyman Bates, of Maquoketa, Iowa, settling on a farm about a mile south of the city. They had three sons and two daughters and Mrs. Bates died in 1856.

John, the third son of John Eaton, was born in Willet, New York, May 8, 1818, never married and died at the home of his brother, James Murray, in Garden Plain, September 12, 1892.

DeWitt C., fourth son of John Eaton, was born in Willet, May 5, 1820, and was about eighteen years of age when he came to Illinois with his father. On attaining his majority he started in business life for himself and for many years rafted floats on both the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers. He was married in Wisconsin and had a daughter and two sons. He made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Shong, near North Yakima, Washington, until his death in December, 1906.

Robert T., fifth son of John Eaton, was born in Willet, May 25th, 1822, and on attaining his majority left home and settled in Jackson county, Iowa. He married Sally H. Waldo, of Lamotte, Iowa, and they had five children: Murray, Cynthia, Martella, Elijah and Clarissa L. Of these Cynthia and Martella died in infancy. In 1852 Robert Eaton went overland to California, attracted by the gold discoveries, but in the fall of 1855 returned and settled on wild land eight miles east of Maquoketa, Iowa, where he lived until 1878. He then removed to Riverton, Franklin county, Nebraska, where he died June 13, 1894. He enlisted in the Thirty-first Regiment of Iowa Infantry in 1862 and was in General Logan's brigade and with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea.

Clarissa L., fourth daughter of John Eaton, was born in Willet, January 30, 1825, and when her parents came west remained with her sister Melinda in New York. She married Lewis L. Philley and they removed to a farm near Mazeppa, Minnesota, where she died December 23, 1893.

Miles, sixth son of John Eaton, was born in Willet, September 17, 1827, and was nine years of age at the time of the removal of the family to Elkhorn Grove. On reaching his majority he settled on a tract of government land four miles east of Maquoketa, Iowa, where he now lives. The above mentioned were all children of the father's first marriage and those that follow were children of the second marriage:

Chloe D., fifth daughter of John Eaton, was born in Willet, New York, October 27, 1830, and was married July 4, 1857, to Albert W. Plumley. They lived most of their married life in Fulton, Illinois, where she died December 12, 1890, leaving a daughter and son; Effie E., the wife of William Spangler, of Rock Falls; and Frank A., of Fulton.

Henry D., seventh son of John Eaton, was born at Willet, September 17, 1833, spent his boyhood days in Elkhorn township and came with his parents to Whiteside county. In the fall of 1862 he married Lina Monroe, of Maquoketa, Iowa, and of their six sons and one daughter, four sons and the daughter are now living. Leaving Whiteside county in the spring of 1884, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eaton lived for a few years in Iowa and then went to Montezuma county, Colorado, where Mr. Eaton died June 2, 1905, while his widow, a son and daughter now live in Colorado and two sons in Des Moines, Iowa.

James Murray is the eighth son and of him mention will be made later on.

Thomas Benton, the ninth son, was born in the town of Elkhorn Grove, May 20, 1839. Before he was named, Samples Journey, a prominent citizen of the county, asked the privilege of naming the baby, which was granted by his parents. Soon after Mr. Journey sent cloth for a dress for the child and pinned to it a slip on which was written "Samples Journey Eaton." The baby was accordingly so named and so called until he was about three years of age, when Mr. Journey, becoming angered by a man, struck him a fearful blow over the head with a surveyor's staff. This incident was common talk all over the country at the time, and scarcely anyone justified Mr. Journey's action. The little boy, his namesake, hearing his elders tell of the occurrence, his youthful mind was impressed by the fact that Mr. Journey had done wrong and one day, in his childish way, he said: "My name is not Samples Journey, it is Thomas Benton." (Thomas Benton was at that time and for years after a very prominent man, figuring in national politics.) The older brothers, thinking it cute for the little fellow to stand up so sturdily and claim his name as Tom Benton, called him that and when he became of age he chose that for his name. In December, 1865, he married Miss Lida M. Sutherland, of Fulton, Illinois, and they resided on a farm in Garden Plain until about the close of 1897, since which time they have resided at Rock Island, Illinois. Their children are: Ashley K., of Anadarka, Oklahoma; Harry of Low Moor, Iowa; Lillian A., the wife of W. E. Burnett; Mary Belle, the wife of S. A. Montgomery, of Garden Plain; and Lucy and Alice, at home.

James Murray Eaton was the youngest of the family born in New York, his natal day being October 31, 1835. He was only a year old when his family came to Elkhorn Grove in 1836, and he has since lived in this state. His memory compasses the period of early pioneer experiences, when the homes of the settlers were widely scattered and the intervening distances were stretches of wild, unbroken prairie with perhaps here and there a little grove of trees upon the banks of the streams. It was not an unusual thing to see Indians in this part of the state, for the Black Hawk war had occurred only four years before the arrival of the family. Deer and lesser wild game could be had in abundance and the great majority of the early settlers lived in log cabins, while cooking was done over the fireplace and the homes were lighted by candles. The farm machinery, too, was very crude and imperfect as compared with that of the present time. J. Murray Eaton pursued his early education in a log building where the present schoolhouse is now situated on the south side of the grove, west of the Methodist Episcopal church. He after-

ward attended the Center schoolhouse in the Grove, where his schoolmates numbered many whose names have since figured prominently upon the pages of the history of this section of the state. Still later Mr. Eaton was a student in the Prairie school near the Eaton home in Carroll county.

On the 28th of October, 1869, occurred the marriage of James Murray Eaton and Miss Emily Greene, of Lowell, Massachusetts. Her maternal grandfather was Rufus Kimpton, who was born in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, September 2, 1762, and died February 17, 1822. He entered the Revolutionary war as a drummer boy when only in his teens and was honorably discharged at the close of hostilities. His widow was afterward granted a pension in recognition of the aid which he rendered in securing American independence. He was married July 8, 1784, to Abigail Breck, who was born in Sherborn, Massachusetts, April 23, 1761, and died in Stanstead, Canada, November 21, 1847. Their children, all born at Croydon, New Hampshire, are as follows: Sarah Kimpton, the eldest, born April 3, 1785, became the wife of James Martin and their children were Alvin C., James and Amanda, of Darlington, Wisconsin; Abigail Kimpton, born September 29, 1786, was the wife of Josiah Dolloff, of Stanstead, Canada; Calvin, born April 17, 1788, died in childhood; Rufus was born May 4, 1789. Susannah, born June 22, 1792, became the wife of Israel Blake, of Derby, Vermont. Judith, born June 14, 1794, married Ephraim Green, of Greensboro, Vermont, and their family afterward became residents of Lowell, Massachusetts. Esther, born June 27, 1796, married Josiah Gustin, of Stanstead, Canada. Alpheus was born March 17, 1798. Mahala, born December 22, 1800, became the wife of Ichabod Shurtleff and died in 1871. Hannah, born April 10, 1803, married a Mr. Reumick.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Eaton began their domestic life on his farm in Garden Plain, Whiteside county, and for almost a quarter of a century made their home there, but in March, 1893, removed to Fulton, where they now reside. Their only child lived but a short time, but they adopted two sons and a daughter in early childhood. One son, Henry, enlisted for service in the Cuban war in Company F, First Regiment of Illinois Infantry, and died at Montauk, Long Island, two days after the regiment landed there. The other son is in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company at Galesburg, Illinois, as a fireman, and the daughter lives at home.

Mr. Eaton is a member of Fulton City Lodge, No. 189, A. F. & A. M., with which he became identified in 1864. In 1867 he assisted in organizing the Masonic lodge of Albany, of which he was made master, a position which he filled continuously for eight years. He was then out of office for a short time, but afterward again filled the position for two terms of two years each and for another term of one year. He likewise affiliates with the Modern Woodmen and is now serving as clerk of the local camp. He has filled several local offices of public honor and trust, has been on the school board, acting as its president for eight years, the cause of education finding in him a warm and stalwart champion. He represented the town of Garden Plain on the Whiteside country board of supervisors for ten years and in every position of trust has been loyal to the confidence reposed in him. He has always been interested in and closely identified with the progress and develop-

ment of his state, in which he has now made his home for seventy-two years. Few men have more intimate knowledge of the history of this locality or have been more closely and honorably associated with its growth and upbuilding. In all his business dealings he has been found strictly reliable, has never been remiss in the duties of citizenship and has always followed high ideals concerning his relations with his fellowmen.

ELMER L. ALLEN.

An excellent farm of three hundred and thirty acres is owned by E. L. and G. A. Allen who since 1868 have been residents of Whiteside county and in the intervening forty years have gained a creditable reputation as progressive, enterprising and thoroughly reliable agriculturists. Elmer L. Allen was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, December 8, 1860, and since 1868 has resided continuously upon the farm which is now his home, with the exception of two years spent in the '80s in South Dakota, where he took a claim which he afterward sold.

His parents were Albert B. and Anna M. (Mann) Allen, the former a native of Erie county, New York, and the latter of Ohio. They were married in Kankakee county, Illinois, and the father died August 21, 1887, at the age of sixty years, nine months and twenty-six days, while his widow still survives and now makes her home with her son Elmer. Throughout his entire life he followed the occupation of farming and his political allegiance was given to the republican party. His family numbered eight children: Sophronia, the wife of Rasmus Rasmussen, of Henry county; Ida J., the wife of Frank J. Besse, of Houghton, South Dakota; Sarah May, the deceased wife of B. J. Hedger; Elmer L., of this review; Kate Maude, of Sterling; George A., also living in Sterling; Satie A., who died October 15, 1870, at the age of two years, eleven months and one day; and Laura B., the wife of James McCue, of Galt.

Brought to Whiteside county when in his eighth year, Elmer L. Allen was reared upon the home farm which is now his place of residence and was early trained in the work of field and meadow. He soon learned to know the best time for planting the different crops and the best methods of caring for the fields. His education was acquired in the public schools but during the periods of vacation he assisted in the task of clearing and cultivating his father's land. He remained continuously in this county until the '80s, when he went to South Dakota, where he took a claim upon which he lived until he had secured his title. He afterward sold out there and returned to Whiteside county, where he has since made his home. He has here three hundred and thirty acres of rich and productive land. This is almost the same tract which his father owned. He has, however, sold off eighty acres, of which his father was the possessor, and has purchased forty acres on section 4, Lyndon township. Here he carries on general farming and the land is productive, bringing forth rich crops, so that his labors are attended with gratifying success.

On the 15th of November, 1887, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Eva L. McDearmon, who was born in Lyndon township, June 22, 1862, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Russell) McDearmon. Her father was a native of Erie county, New York, born July 14, 1828, while her mother's birth occurred in the same county, September 14, 1836. They were married March 12, 1857, and both have now passed away. The death of Mrs. McDearmon occurred on the 16th of November, 1898, and Mr. McDearmon died only five days later. They had long traveled life's journey together and were thus separated by death for only a brief period. They had come west to Whiteside county immediately after their marriage and Mr. McDearmon owned and conducted a drug store at Lyndon for two years. He then purchased a farm in Lyndon township and made his home thereon for a long period, being closely, actively and honorably associated with the agricultural interests of this locality. Mr. McDearmon served his country as a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting from Lyndon township, September 2, 1862, as a member of Company B, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He went to the front but was honorably discharged December 22, 1862, owing to a serious wound sustained in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, a minie-ball striking his right foot, causing lameness which continued throughout his entire life. Unto him and his wife were born nine children: Fred R., who is now living in Lyndon township; Frank G., whose home is in Mount Pleasant township; Eva L., now Mrs. Allen; Fannie Elizabeth, who was born October 22, 1864, and died September 20, 1867; Clark W., of Rock Island county; Ralph E., also living in Rock Island county, Illinois; Paul H., of South Dakota; Joseph H., living in Minnesota; and Mary E., the wife of C. L. Pray, of Mount Pleasant township.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Allen have been born five children: Coral M., born November 5, 1888; Albert B., June 20, 1891; J. Fred, who was born August 26, 1893, and died March 25, 1896; Harold E., born November 14, 1897; and Clarence, January 20, 1902.

The family are well known in this part of the state and from many of their acquaintances they receive warm and lasting friendship. Mr. Allen gives his political allegiance to the republican party but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business interests, wherein he is now meeting with excellent success, owning one of the valuable, attractive and productive farms of his township.

WILLIAM PRITCHARD.

William Pritchard, who carries on farming on section 10, Prophetstown township, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, was born in Henry county, Illinois, on the 22d of January, 1878. His parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Erwin) Pritchard, were both natives of Ireland and came to America at an early date. The father's birth occurred in the year 1843 and after landing on the shores of the new world he first worked as a

farm hand. Subsequently, however, he purchased a tract of land and, as his financial resources increased, added to his holdings until at the time of his death, in 1904, he was the owner of one thousand acres in Henry county, Illinois. In addition to his farming interests he carried on an extensive business as a breeder of Hereford cattle and was widely recognized as a representative and prosperous agriculturist and stock-raiser of his county. Henry Pritchard was twice married and by his first wife, who died in 1880, he had five children, namely: Sadie and Henry, both deceased; John and Mary, of Henry county, Illinois; and William, of this review. By his second union the father had three children: Hugh, deceased; and Samuel and Walter, at home.

William Pritchard acquired his education in the common schools and remained with his father until he had attained mature years, when he purchased a farm in Washington county, Iowa, which he cultivated for a year. At the end of that time he disposed of the property and bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, Prophetstown township, Whiteside county, where he has since resided. He has brought the fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathers golden harvests as a reward for his untiring labor and capable management. He is well known as an enterprising and progressive agriculturist of the community and, although still a young man, has already gained a gratifying measure of success in the conduct of his business interests.

In 1901 Mr. Pritchard was united in marriage to Miss Mattie H. Baker, a native of Henry county, Illinois, and a daughter of W. P. and Dassa (Graves) Baker, who were both born in the state of Maine and came to Illinois in 1865. Mrs. Pritchard who was one of a family of nine children is a graduate of the Geneseo Collegiate Institute at Geneseo, Illinois, and taught school for three years prior to her marriage. She is the mother of two children: Forest Chester and William Ward.

Mr. Pritchard gives his political allegiance to the republican party, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, with which his wife is also identified. They have the warm esteem and friendship of many with whom they have come in contact and the hospitality of the best homes of the locality is cordially extended them.

JOHN W. SHEAFFER.

It is given to but few men to reach such an advanced point on the journey of life as John W. Sheaffer has done. He is now one of the most venerable citizens of Sterling, having reached the age of eighty-seven years. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on the banks of the Conestoga river, May 11, 1821. His father, Jacob Sheaffer, was also born in Lancaster county, but his father, Nathaniel Sheaffer, was of German descent and his mother of Irish birth. Having arrived at years of maturity, Jacob Sheaffer wedded Susanne Ferree, who was of French descent and of Huguenot ancestry, the first of the name in America coming to this country in

1708. Jacob Sheaffer was a laborer and cut cordwood at twenty-five cents per cord. He also worked at times for twenty-five cents per day. He died in Lancaster county at the age of sixty-five years, having for some time survived his wife, who died at the age of fifty. They were members of the German Reformed church, now called the German Presbyterian. Their family numbered nine children, six sons and three daughters, John W. and Paul, who is living in Canton, Ohio, and who was a soldier of the Civil war for three years, being the only ones now living.

John W. Sheaffer was reared in the county of his nativity, his early boyhood being spent in Earl township. His youth was largely a period of earnest toil and at the age of fourteen he went to the village of New Holland, where he followed various pursuits. When about seventeen years of age he was apprenticed to the tinner's trade, which he followed for many years. In his school life he studied from the Webster's primer and later was advanced to the English reader. The schoolmaster used the rod freely, being a severe teacher and a drinking man, whose habits did not set a very good example to the pupils. Mr. Sheaffer however, was always fond of books and in his early boyhood eagerly pored over the Saturday Evening Post and the Dollar Newspaper. Becoming interested in gaining knowledge, he bought a dictionary and as opportunity offered purchased other books, which he would read lying in bed with a tallow candle beside him. He became a great reader and eventually a well informed man and keeps up with the times to a remarkable degree. He yet frequently refers to the encyclopedia in search of knowledge bearing upon some subject which comes to his notice and in this way he has continually broadened his mind. This search for information has been one of his chief sources of pleasure. He is also quite a brilliant writer.

In 1853 Mr. Sheaffer came to the west to look over the country and that he was pleased is indicated by the fact that in 1855 he returned and made a permanent settlement. He remembers when the farmers felt that they had excellent transportation facilities in shipping their pork to Chicago from Freeport on the first railroad and the next day receiving their pay for the product. As stated, Mr. Sheaffer became a resident of Sterling in 1855, bought a lot and built thereon the house which he yet occupies. It is one of the old landmarks of the city and has been a witness of many remarkable changes here. Cutting down the trees, he made pumps and has been continuously engaged in the pump business with the exception of the time spent in the Civil war. In 1862, responding to the country's call, he enlisted in the Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry as a member of Company D and served for three years. He was made sergeant and participated in all the battles of the Cumberland Army, including the engagements of Stone River and Chickamauga. He proved a brave and loyal soldier, never faltering in the performance of any duty, and his military record is most creditable.

Following the close of the war Mr. Sheaffer resumed the business of pump-making and continued it until he permanently put aside business cares. For the past ten years he has lived retired and his rest has been well earned.

It was in October, 1843, that Mr. Sheaffer was married to Miss Eliza Goshen, a daughter of Richard and Betsy (Myers) Goshen, who were natives

of Pennsylvania and there spent their entire lives. They had four children but all are now deceased, the death of Mrs. Sheaffer having occurred in 1894 when she was seventy-one years of age. She was a devoted member of the Presbyterian church and her life was given to promoting the comfort and happiness of her husband and children. Unto them were born a son and seven daughters, of whom five reached years of maturity: Catharine, now the deceased wife of Abraham Miller, by whom she had one child, Mary; Clara, the wife of Silas Green, by whom she has two living children, Esther and Dr. William Green, she and her husband making their home with her father; Mary, deceased; Sarah, the wife of Eugene Rundlet, living near Des Moines, Iowa, and the mother of nine children; and Ferree, who married Nancy Brink and is in the employ of the Standard Oil Company.

Mr. Sheaffer belongs to Will Robinson Post, No. 274, G. A. R., and is its oldest representative. His political allegiance has been continuously given the republican party since its organization. He has never sought to figure prominently before the public, but his life has been that of an honest man, who in business was reliable, trustworthy and diligent and who in every relation displayed traits of character which won for him confidence and respect. He is now one of the oldest residents of Sterling and well merits the esteem in which he is held by the young and the aged, the rich and the poor.

PHILIP H. SIMPSON, D. D. S.

The attractiveness of Whiteside county as a place of residence is well indicated by the fact that many of her native sons on attaining manhood have remained within her borders, enjoying the advantages and the opportunities which she offers and contributing to her upbuilding by their diligence and enterprise in various lines of business. Dr. Simpson, a native of Garden Plain township, born in 1873, is now one of the successful dentists of Morrison.

His father, Herbert J. Simpson, was born in Canada and is now living in Garden Plain township, Whiteside county. He came to the United States in 1854 in company with his parents, who settled upon a farm in that township. Upon that place Herbert J. Simpson still makes his home and as the years have passed he has prospered, attaining a gratifying measure of success. For a long time he was a breeder of Poland China hogs but now gives his attention more largely to the Duroc hogs. He has also raised considerable cattle and his live-stock interests have made his business very profitable. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and takes a deep and active interest in its work. His political support is given to the republican party and he has held a number of township offices. He married Ida E. Van Nest, who was born in Albany, Illinois, and was also a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the faith of which she passed away November 14, 1907, at the age of fifty-eight years. In their family were four children: Philip H., Howard B., Nettie M. and Carlotta M.

Dr. Simpson was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. At the usual age he began his education as a district-school student and subsequently attended the high school at Albany, where he was graduated with the class of 1896. He afterward pursued a preparatory course at Fulton College and for three years engaged in teaching school but regarding this merely as an initial step to further professional labor, he entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery in the fall of 1900 and completed the three years' course by graduation in the spring of 1903. He then located for practice in Albany, where he remained for four years, when, in October, 1907, he came to Morrison. Here he has made a good start in his profession, having a well equipped office, while his skill and ability are manifest in the excellent mechanical work of the operating room.

Dr. Simpson was married in the summer of 1903 to Miss Mary Robinson, daughter of Dr. R. E. Robinson, of Albany, Illinois, who was born in Mt. Holly Springs, Pennsylvania, in 1876. They have one son, Robert Donald, born November 13, 1905, and a daughter, Ida Van Nest, born December 10, 1907.

In politics Dr. Simpson is a republican and he makes consecutive progress, in touch with the profession as a member of the County and State Dental Associations. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and are well known socially, having many warm friends in the county where Dr. Simpson was born and where he has spent his entire life.

STEVEN SHERWOOD.

Steven Sherwood, who passed away March 1, 1886, was well known in Genesee township as an enterprising farmer of the locality and as a citizen of worth and value. He was born August 7, 1801, at Peekskill, in Westchester county, New York, his parents being Caleb and Phebe (Oakley) Sherwood. Both parents were representatives of old, prominent families who came to this country in colonial days. Mr. Sherwood of this review was reared in the east, but the business opportunities of the west attracted him and in 1852 he made his way into this section of the country, settling on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 35, Genesee township. It remained his place of residence up to the time of his death, and his energy and labors converted it into a well improved property. He annually gathered good harvests and thus made a comfortable living for his family.

Mr. Sherwood was married first to Miss Caroline Chase, who was born in Boston, Massachusetts, June 30, 1812, resided in New York city until 1854 and then came to Whiteside county, Illinois. Her death occurred in this county, July 4, 1854, and of the five children born of that marriage none is now living. On the 31st of May, 1855, Mr. Sherwood was again married, his second union being with Marena C. Harrison, a daughter of Mark and Mary (Taylor) Harrison, of whom extended mention is made on an-

other page of this volume in connection with the sketch of James E. Harrison, a brother of Mrs. Sherwood. Mrs. Sherwood was born January 23, 1833, in Putnam county, Illinois. By her marriage she has become the mother of ten children: Frances E., now the wife of William Kingman, a resident of Colorado; Emma R., the wife of William Rush, who is living in Barton county, Kansas; Gilbert, deceased; Phebe, the wife of Ed. Knox, of Oklahoma; Elnora, the wife of John Morton, living in Whiteside county; B. F., a resident of Arkansas; Charles J., who married Sophia Bush, of Iowa, in which state they make their home; Clara B., the wife of Ebner Howe, of this county; Asa K., who married Anna Howe and is living on the home farm; and Arthur C., also of Iowa.

Mr. Sherwood devoted his entire life in the west to general agricultural pursuits and was well known in the community as an energetic, reliable business man, respected for his many excellent traits of character. His widow still survives him and resides upon the home farm, comprising eighty acres of land in Genesee township. She is a member of the Christian church and has many warm friends in this community.

JAMES A. DE GROFF

James A. DeGroff, who since 1851 has been a resident of Whiteside county, is now living retired in Sterling, deriving his income largely from his investments in land. He was born in the town of Ira, Cayuga county, New York, August 30, 1834, and was one of two sons and two daughters born unto Gideon and Amy (Howland) DeGroff. The father was a son of Gideon DeGroff, Sr., a native of New York, and of Holland Dutch descent. He married Margaret Turpening and died in April, 1850, at the venerable age of eighty-one years, while his wife also passed away at an advanced age. His life was devoted to farming, whereby he provided for the support of his family, numbering two sons and six daughters. The maternal grandparents were Nicholas and Wealthy (Howland) DeGroff. The former, a native of New York, was also a farmer by occupation and after losing his first wife he married Eunice Copeland, while subsequent to her death he married Lucretia Smith.

Gideon and Amy (Howland) DeGroff, parents of our subject, were natives of New York, and the former, reared to the occupation of farming, followed that pursuit as a life work. In 1851 he brought his family to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating in Genesee township upon a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, for which he paid one thousand dollars. This he improved until 1857, when he removed to Sterling, where he lived retired for some time. He died while on a visit to Nebraska in 1875, at the age of sixty-eight years, and his wife's death occurred in 1869, when she was fifty-eight years of age. They were consistent and devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in community affairs Gideon DeGroff was prominent, being called to various township offices, while his opinions

carried weight among those who knew him. Of the children, Wealthy E. became the wife of J. M. Armstrong and is now deceased; James A. is the second of the family; Burritt M. is a resident of Chicago; and Sarah M. is the wife of John L. Deppell, of Billings, Missouri.

James A. DeGroff was seventeen years of age when he came to Whiteside county with his parents, where he has lived continuously since. There were still many evidences of pioneer life here and great changes have been wrought in the fifty-seven years which have since been added to the cycle of the centuries. He attended the district schools and continued his studies in Knox College, at Galesburg, Illinois, after which he successfully engaged in teaching school in this county for several years. Turning his attention to farming in Hopkins township, he purchased a tract of land of two hundred and forty acres, which he occupied for nine years, giving his attention to its further development and improvement. In the meantime he extended the boundaries by the additional purchase of eighty acres. In the spring of 1867 he removed to Sterling and purchased a residence, which he has since occupied. He derives a good income from his property and is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres in Potter county, South Dakota.

On the 13th of October, 1858, Mr. DeGroff was married to Miss Elvira Esther Colcord, a daughter of Ivory and Elzina (Smith) Colcord. The ancestry of the Colcord family can be traced back to Edward Colcord, who settled at Exeter, Massachusetts, in 1638. His eldest child, however, had come to America in 1631, and in 1640 removed to Dover, while in 1644 he became a resident of Hampton and probably removed to Soco, Massachusetts, in 1668. From that town he returned to Hampton in 1673. There were several sons and daughters in this family who attained adult age. Of the three sons, Jonathan, the eldest, died August 31, 1661, in his twenty-second year. The second, Edward, was killed by the Indians on the 13th of June, 1667, and the other was Samuel. These facts were furnished in support of the report of the famous forged deed of the Sachem Indians that gave to John Wheelwright and others the site of Exeter, New Hampshire, and the region surrounding it, May 17, 1629, more than seven years before Wheelwright crossed the ocean. It is supposed that Wheelwright employed Colcord to purchase from some Indians the land upon which he designed to found the town of Exeter in 1638. Josiah Colcord, one of the ancestors, served as a private in Captain Supher Jenkins' company, Colonel Samuel Johnson's regiment, in the Revolutionary war, enlisting August 18, 1777, and receiving his discharge on the 30th of November following. He served for three months and twenty-seven days with the northern army under General Gates. John Colcord (N. H.), ensign of the Eighth Continental Infantry, on the 1st of January, 1776, was made second lieutenant in the Second New Hampshire on the 8th of November, 1776, and resigned May 14, 1777. These facts are found in the old records of the east. Her paternal grandparents were Phineas and Rebecca (Bradbury) Colcord. The former was born near Bath, Maine, and was a farmer by occupation. Both he and his wife died near Bath. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. DeGroff was Ethan Smith, a native of New Hampshire, who died when comparatively a young man. His wife bore the maiden

name of Abigail White and they had one child, Elzina Esther. After losing her husband Mrs. Smith married again, becoming the wife of Henry Holbrook. She was a daughter of Thomas and Mary (French) White, the former of whom was a great-grandson of Peregrine White, who was born on the Mayflower and was named by his uncle, Dr. Fuller, the name Peregrine being Latin and meaning "A stranger." Mrs. DeGroff's great-grandfather, Thomas White, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1730, and became a resident of Cornish, New Hampshire. He was a well-to-do man for those days, owning a large tract of land and living in a large house, a part of which was built over a spring. His daughter, Abigail White, married Ethan Smith, who was drowned, and after his death she and her little daughter, Elzina Esther, returned to the old homestead to live with her parents. Sitting around the fireside, Mrs. DeGroff's mother would relate many interesting incidents of her childhood spent among the hills of New Hampshire to her children and grandchildren, and Mrs. DeGroff remembers her grandfather taking her upon his lap and relating stories of how his forefathers were so persecuted in England that they came to America in the Mayflower. He said that when a child he had frequently seen the silver knee buckles that they brought over with them at that time. Her mother sat up many nights sewing for the soldiers of the war of 1812, in which two brothers, James and John Smith, took part.

The parents of Mrs. DeGroff became prominent pioneer settlers of Illinois. The father was a native of Alfred, Maine, and the mother of Keene, New Hampshire. They arrived in this state in October, 1837, when the Indians still lived here, and this great district was then an unbroken wilderness, over which deer roamed and many wild animals were found. The white settlers, however, had contested the dominion of the land with the red race and had won a victory in the Black Hawk war. Mr. and Mrs. Colcord took up their abode in Genesee township, Whiteside county, and preempted a claim before a survey was made. There for many years the father carried on farming, making the homestead his place of residence until his death in 1865, when he was sixty-five years of age, his birth having occurred August 20, 1799. His wife long survived him and died July 9, 1885, at the age of eighty years. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom five are now living, namely: Lorena, the widow of Washington Law, of Denver, Colorado; Anna, the wife of Caleb Burgess, of Sterling; Ivory, of Port Hammond, British Columbia; Elvira E., the wife of James A. DeGroff, the subject of this review; and Angeline, the widow of Ozro Turpeny, of Sterling. One son of the family, Ralph Bennett Colcord, was at one time a prominent citizen of Whiteside county, but many years ago removed to Pasadena, California, where he died in October, 1907. One son was the second child born in Whiteside county. Two of the brothers of Mrs. DeGroff were very prominent Masons.

Mrs. DeGroff was born July 25, 1841, on the old Colcord homestead and is probably the oldest person now living in Sterling who was born in this county. For forty-one years she has occupied her present home, which is dear to her from its many sacred associations and memories. Here she has

reared her family, which numbered four children, but James LeRoy, the third in order of birth, is deceased. Raymond V., the eldest, who is purchasing agent for the Rock Island Railroad Company at Hartshorn, Oklahoma, married Bertha Hazen, and they have a daughter, Hazel Lorene. Lettie A. is an artist of considerable ability, who has produced many excellent oil paintings and also teaches classes in painting. Burton L., after finishing his education, entered the mercantile business, which he conducted very successfully, but at present is traveling salesman for the Heinz Supply Company, and married Anna Phelps, their home being at Peoria. The eldest son is a graduate of the Northwestern University at Evanston, and for over twenty years was superintendent of schools and stood high as an educator in northern Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. DeGroff are members of the Fourth Street Methodist Episcopal church and have a very extensive circle of friends in the community where they have so long resided. Politically Mr. DeGroff was formerly a republican, but is now a prohibitionist. He has held various township offices, the duties of which he has discharged with promptness and fidelity that is above question. Both he and his wife are held in highest esteem because of their genuine worth, and no record of Whiteside county would be complete without mention of them, for during fifty-seven years Mr. DeGroff has been identified with the interests of the county, while his wife has spent her entire life here, representing one of the oldest families in this part of the state. Mrs. DeGroff has always been a faithful helpmate to her husband, who says she is entitled to equal credit with him in securing a competency for old age. She is a most intelligent lady of refinement and culture and belongs to that class of revered and honored women who are known as "the good mothers" of the county.

FRANZ S. HUBBART.

The attractiveness of Whiteside county as a place of residence is indicated by the fact that many of her native sons have retained their residence within her borders, enjoying the advantages and benefits which she offers and finding here good opportunities for the attainment of success in the business world. To this class belongs Franz S. Hubbard, who was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, November 13, 1870, his parents being S. S. and Adaline (Remer) Hubbard, who are mentioned on another page of this volume. At the usual age the son began his education, which he continued until he was graduated from the Erie high school. After putting aside his text-books he remained at home until he had attained his majority and then started out upon an independent business career, working at a restaurant and lunch room in Denrock, Illinois, for a year. He next made a trip to Seattle, Washington, where he remained for two years, after which he went to Portland, Oregon, working in an ice plant for one season. He then again came to Whiteside county and for a year cultivated a rented farm, after which he

invested his savings in sixty acres of land on section 8, Erie township. He improved this by building a fine house and adding substantial buildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He also used the latest improved machinery, and everything about the place is indicative of his careful supervision and practical methods. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion, forming his plans readily and executing them with determination. He has become widely known through the raising and breeding of fine poultry, making a specialty of barred Plymouth Rock chickens.

On the 20th of December, 1898, Mr. Hubbard was married to Miss Della Campbell, who was born in Ohio in 1878, and was one of a family of three children. Her mother is now deceased, but her father is still living in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard lost their only child, Beatrice, and they are now rearing an adopted daughter, Nettie M. Mr. Hubbard and his wife are members of the Christian church and contribute liberally to its support and take an active part in its work. Mrs. Hubbard is a lady of culture and refinement who was graduated from the Erie high school and was engaged in teaching prior to her marriage. Mr. Hubbard exercises his right of franchise in support of the prohibition party, being a stalwart advocate of the cause of temperance. In fact, his influence is always found on the side of reform, improvement, justice and truth, and his position in support of all that is right is never an equivocal one. His fellowmen respect him because they know him to be honest and trustworthy, and because they know he is ever reaching upward to higher ideals.

HENRY TUCKER.

The great agricultural state of Illinois claims among its residents many men of excellent business ability, marked enterprise and comprehensive understanding of the qualities which are necessary for success in business. To this class belonged Henry Tucker, who was closely associated with agricultural life both as a farmer and breeder and raiser of thoroughbred stock. His energy intelligently applied, brought him a gratifying measure of success that enabled him to leave his family in comfortable financial circumstances.

He was born April 6, 1839, in Chenango county, New York, and was the youngest in a family of two sons and two daughters, all of whom are now deceased. The family came of Irish ancestry. Henry Tucker spent his boyhood days in the Empire state and was left an orphan at the age of ten years. He attended the public schools, thus acquiring his education, and when a young man of twenty-two years he sought a home in Illinois, for he believed that the newer and less thickly settled west afforded superior advantages to the ambitious young man than the older east afforded.

On reaching this state he settled on a farm in Mount Pleasant township, Whiteside county, in 1861, and as the years passed prospered in his undertakings, becoming one of the leading and successful farmers of the locality. As time passed he added to his original holdings until he had secured over



HENRY TUCKER

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two hundred acres of land, in the midst of which stood one of the finest country residences in Illinois. To his place he added all modern equipments, accessories and conveniences. He built large and commodious buildings, secured the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and provided ample accommodations for the shelter of grain and stock. He became widely known as a breeder of shorthorn cattle and thoroughbred hogs and also raised good horses. He brought to his business a sound judgment and keen discrimination which were important factors in winning his prosperity. Moreover, he was frugal and industrious, and his salient characteristics were such as to win for him the high esteem of those with whom he came in contact.

On the 2nd of March, 1861, Mr. Tucker was married to Miss Lydia Jane Hiddleston, who was born in Pennsylvania, in 1839, a daughter of Arcade and Caroline Hiddleston, of whom mention is made in connection with the sketch of W. P. Hiddleston on another page of this work. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Tucker were born five children, as follows: Amy C., who was born October 24, 1862, died January 10, 1877; Mary L., born August 31, 1864, is the widow of Daniel Berry, an attorney, and they had two children; Arkey, born October 14, 1866, married Irene Deets, who was born in Genesee township in 1875, and is a daughter of William and Katherine Deets, the former a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Arkey Tucker now have two sons, William H. and Harry D. Tucker. For many years the father engaged in farming but has now retired and is a resident of Morrison. The third member of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tucker died in infancy. Hallie J., born April 11, 1873, married Minnie Norton, and died February 14, 1896.

Henry Tucker was a member of the Odd Fellows society and was in through sympathy with the beneficent spirit of the order. He voted with the republican party and his fellow townsmen called him to several local offices, yet he was never a politician in the sense of office seeking. Naturally of strong mind, he readily determined the value of a situation bearing upon his business career and won his success by capable management and honorable effort. He was charitable in his disposition and kindly in action and the many sterling qualities which he displayed gained for him a favorable position in public regard. He died on the 2d of December, 1906.

ROBERT H. PRITCHARD.

Robert H. Pritchard, a prominent agriculturist and stock-raiser of Prophetstown township, was born in Henry county, Illinois, on the 4th of October, 1869, a son of Samuel and Alice Pritchard, natives of Ireland. The parents came to America in an early day, first locating at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Rock Island county, Illinois, where the father carried on farming for a few years. Subsequently they settled in Henry county, where Samuel Pritchard is extensively engaged in raising and feeding stock, and also does quite a large business as a fruit grower. He is now the owner of one thousand acres of rich and productive land in Henry

county, and the splendid success which has crowned his labors has all been attained since his arrival in the United States. He found in the new world the opportunities for business advancement which he sought, and through their utilization has gained a well merited and gratifying degree of prosperity. He also served his adopted country as a soldier in the Civil war for three years, loyally defending the interests of the Union in many hotly contested engagements. Unto him and his wife have been born eight children, namely: Robert H., of this review; Jennie, the wife of Samuel Allen, of Henry county, Illinois; William J., who also resides in Henry county; Anna and Lizzie, both deceased; David R., Alice G., and Charles B., all at home.

Robert H. Pritchard acquired his education in the common schools and remained under the parental roof until the year 1901, when he was married and made further arrangements for having a home of his own by the purchase of two hundred and forty acres of land on sections 15 and 22, Prophetstown township, Whiteside county. He has brought the property up to a high state of cultivation and added many modern improvements, while in addition to the work of general farming he makes a specialty of raising and feeding stock. He is recognized throughout the community as an enterprising citizen and successful business man, straightforward and reliable at all times.

As stated, in 1901 Mr. Pritchard was united in marriage to Miss Emma H. Baker, a native of Bureau county, Illinois, and a daughter of W. P. Baker, who was born in the state of Maine, but now resides in Henry county, Illinois. Mrs. Pritchard was one of a family of nine children and taught school for nine years prior to her marriage. She has one daughter, Lila Myrl.

Mr. Pritchard is a staunch republican in his political views, and has served as school director, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart friend. Both he and his wife are members of the Congregational church and have gained the warm esteem and friendship of many with whom they have come in contact by reason of their genuine personal worth and upright lives.

JOHN GRIERSON.

John Grierson, possessing many of the strong and sterling characteristics of the Scottish race, is now serving as postmaster of Morrison and is a worthy and popular citizen here. He was born in Kirkeudbrightshire, Scotland, in 1841, a son of Thomas and Agnes (McQueen) Grierson, who were also natives of the same shire. The father was a miller by trade and was quite successful in his business life. He lost his wife in 1849 and continued a resident of Scotland for some years thereafter, but in 1858 he came to the United States, settling in western New York, where he again followed milling. There he died in 1866 at the age of fifty-six years. He had been a member of the Odd Fellows' society in Scotland and held membership in

the Presbyterian church, to which Mrs. Grierson also belonged. Their family numbered ten children, nine of whom reached adult age, and four sons and one daughter came to this country. The youngest, a son, died in infancy.

John Grierson, whose name introduces this record, attended the Free church school, Maxwelltown, Scotland, and also taught school in his native land and in western New York. On the 2d of September, 1861, he enlisted at Portville, New York, for service with Company D of the Eighty-fifth New York Infantry. He remained with that command for about a year, when he was discharged on account of disability, but when he had recovered his health he re-enlisted on the 7th of December, 1863, serving in companies G and H of the Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery, with which he continued until the close of the war, being honorably discharged at Washington, September 26, 1865. He participated in a number of important engagements, including the siege of Yorktown under General McClellan in 1862 and the battles of Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, White Oak Swamp, Charles City Crossroads and Malvern Hill, Virginia. This was during his connection with the Eighty-fifth New York Regiment. While with the artillery he participated in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna River, Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor and Petersburg. While before Petersburg during the siege he was captured and taken as a prisoner of war into the city, July 30, 1864. He was then transferred to Danville, where he was incarcerated until February 22, 1865, when he was paroled. He then went to Annapolis, the parole camp, and afterward helped man the forts near Washington, while subsequently he marched in the grand review in the capital city. After being mustered out he returned to his home in New York. When taken prisoner he had his shoulder broken by coming in contact with the butt end of a musket in the hands of a Confederate officer. Fifteen years afterward, while in the south, he learned the name of the man who clubbed him. It was Captain McDonald of the Twenty-third Alabama, who was also a Scotchman. Mr. Grierson was discharged with the rank of first lieutenant, promotion having come to him in recognition of his fidelity and meritorious service.

After the war Mr. Grierson came to Illinois in 1866 and settled at Morrison, working in the Annan mill for four years. He afterward spent three years as an employe in the D. S. Spafford grocery store and thirteen years in the Anderson store. He was appointed postmaster of Morrison during the Harrison administration in 1891 and remained in the office for five years. On the 11th of April, 1900, President McKinley appointed him postmaster and he was reappointed by President Roosevelt in May, 1904, so that he is now the incumbent of the office. Three terms of service have not only brought him intimate knowledge of the duties connected therewith but have also demonstrated his fidelity to the trust reposed in him and his prompt and able discharge of his duties. In public office he is as true and faithful to his country as when he followed the stars and stripes upon the battlefields of the south.

In 1877 Mr. Grierson was married to Miss Mary Robertson, who was born in Albany, Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1851, a daughter of John and Har-

riet (Bliss) Roberston. Her father was a stone-mason and a builder and was one of the early settlers of the county, driving from Michigan in a single buggy about 1843, the eldest daughter being carried in her mother's arms. The family located in the village of Albany, becoming very early settlers of the county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Grierson were born three children: Janet A., who was born in Morrison, November 5, 1879, and is now the wife of Clarence C. Foster, of Seattle, Washington; and Walter G. and William A., twins, born August 4, 1882. The former, who was graduated from the State University at Champaign, Illinois, in June, 1907, is now with the Memphis Bridge Company at Memphis, Tennessee, as draughtsman. The wife and mother died December 4, 1904. She was a devoted and faithful member of the Presbyterian church and a lady whose many excellent traits of character endeared her to a large circle of friends.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Grierson is a Mason and also belongs to Alpheus Clark Post, No. 118, G. A. R., of which he is a past commander. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party since he became an American citizen. He has served as constable, superintendent of streets, and was a member of the board of education for seven years. As postmaster he has given a public-spirited administration and over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

ELISHA LOCKHART.

Elisha Lockhart, a successful agriculturist and stockman of Garden Plain township, was born on the farm where he now resides on the 16th of September, 1861, his parents being Andrew and Nancy (Randall) Lockhart, natives of Adams county, Ohio. The Lockhart family were early settlers of the Buckeye state, while the Randalls also removed to Ohio in an early day, having previously resided in New York. Andrew Lockhart came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1845, entering a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land at a dollar and a quarter per acre, which is now the home of our subject. At the time of the father's arrival here the only settlers were Abel Parker, his six sons, David, Truman, Francis, Edward, Hiram and Jacob, and two daughters, Joseph Snyder, the Burch family, James Sweet and a few others. Chicago was the nearest market, but eventually trading was done at Dixon and subsequently at Fulton, this fact alone indicating that the region was becoming settled and that the work of civilization was being steadily carried forward. Mr. Lockhart made the journey alone from southern Ohio, bringing with him a team of horses, and on locating in this county, as before stated, he entered land, erecting thereon a small frame house consisting of three rooms with an attic above. He brought with him just enough money to pay for his land and when one of his horses died the first year he had no funds with which to buy another and did not wish to go in debt. However, though the path to prosperity was beset with many of the difficulties and obstacles which abound in a pioneer region, he worked earnestly and per-



ELISHA LOCKHART AND FAMILY

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sistently and as the years passed by his efforts were handsomely rewarded. At the time of his death he owned four hundred and ninety acres of rich and valuable land in Garden Plain township, three hundred and seventy acres of which were situated on section 14. In the year 1882 he had removed to Garden Plain Corners, where he owned seventy-four acres of land, there making his home until the time of his demise in January, 1894, when he had attained the age of seventy-two years. He was not actively interested in politics, although he served as school director for many years. When death claimed him the county mourned the loss of one of its honored and respected pioneers, successful agriculturists and upright citizens. Unto him and his wife were born six children, namely: America F., the wife of Mortimer Baker, of Fulton, Illinois; Melissa, the widow of Peter Mattson, who died at his home in Morrison, April 10, 1908, leaving one daughter, Eleta; Elisha, of this review; Sarah, who became the wife of H. J. Bowen and resides in Sterling; Robert L., of Rock Falls; and Angelina, the wife of B. F. Byers, of Powhattan, Kansas.

Elisha Lockhart acquired his preliminary education in the public schools at Garden Plain and subsequently attended the Northern Illinois College. After attaining his majority he worked for his father on the old homestead farm for ten years and then for two years operated land which he rented of his father. On the latter's death Elisha Lockhart inherited the farm on which he now resides—one hundred and twenty acres of the finest land in Garden Plain township. He has placed many improvements on the place and brought it under a high state of cultivation, the fields annually responding in golden harvests to the care and labor he bestows upon them.

In 1892 Mr. Lockhart was united in marriage to Miss Effie C. Allen, of Fulton, who was born September 17, 1866, and was educated in the Fulton public schools, graduating in 1885. For seven years she was a successful teacher in the public schools of Illinois and Iowa, teaching in the school from which she was graduated at the time of her marriage. Her father, O. T. Allen, was born in New York, March 29, 1818, and in early life went to Ohio, where he was married December 19, 1849, to Miss Hannah Randall, the ceremony being performed in the house where she was born, July 19, 1829. In 1852 they came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in company with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Washington Randall, and the other children of the Randall family, William, Sarah, Mary, Martha and Nancy. The journey was made with teams. Mr. Allen settled in the northern portion of Garden Plain township, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land, for which he paid one dollar and a quarter per acre. After residing there for twenty years he removed to Fulton, where his death occurred in 1893. His wife survives him and makes her home with her daughters, Mrs. Lockhart and Mrs. Lewis. They had five children who reached years of maturity, namely: Amanda, who was born in Ohio, September 27, 1850, and is now the wife of L. A. Lewis, of Ustick township; Isaac B., who was born in Illinois, May 27, 1853, and is a resident of Fulton; William E., born December 19, 1856, agent for the Northwestern Railroad at Aurora; Mrs. Lockhart, who is the next of the family; and Minnie I., deceased, who was born September

11, 1869, and married W. H. Dabler, of Manlius, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Lockhart have one son, Allan A., whose birth occurred in March, 1893.

Mr. Lockhart votes with the democracy, and his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church at Garden Plain. Having spent their entire lives in this county, they are widely and favorably known and are familiar with the many changes which have occurred here as the country has been transformed from an undeveloped and sparsely settled region into one of the richest agricultural districts of the United States.

TRUMAN H. CROCKER.

Truman H. Crocker, well known in Whiteside county as a breeder and raiser of live stock and fine poultry, is doing much through his private business affairs not only for his own financial condition, but also to improve the grade of stock raised in this county. He was born in Newton township, this county, February 24, 1862, and is a son of John W. and Amarette (Hill) Crocker, who were natives of Michigan, in which state they were reared. The mother came to Illinois with her parents and the father with his brother. They became residents of Albany, and both are now living in Morrison. Mr. Crocker having retired from active business life. Their family numbered nine children: Truman H.; Mrs. Mary Elmyra Sherman, of Chicago; Bertha, the wife of William Sprinkle, of this county; Frank E. and Francis B., twins, who are residents of Fenton township; Carrie, the wife of Burt Strayer, of Missouri; Jennie, who is with her parents; William, a mail carrier of Fenton; and Carl, at home.

When Truman H. Crocker was two years of age his parents removed to Fenton township, where he was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He continued to assist his father in carrying on the home farm until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life on his own account. He first purchased a farm of eighty acres, but after two or three years sold that property, and for two years afterward rented land. He next purchased his present farm, comprising one hundred and thirty acres on section 27, Fenton township. There was nothing on the place when it came into his possession, and all of the buildings and improvements stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. He now has an excellent place equipped with modern accessories and conveniences, and everything about the farm is kept in a state of good repair. His success is attributable entirely to his own efforts, for he had no capital when he started out in life, working, however, persistently and earnestly to gain a start, and eventually winning a place among the substantial residents of the county. He is now extensively and successfully engaged in raising draft and road horses, making a specialty of the Clyde and Major Mason stock. He keeps on hand from eighteen to twenty-five head of thoroughbreds and he also makes a specialty of white-faced shorthorn cattle and raises from seventy-five to one hundred

and twenty-five head of hogs. This is one of the best stock farms of the locality. He never sells a bushel of corn but feeds all to his stock, although he has raised as high as six thousand bushels of corn in a year. He not only cultivates his own fields, but also rents land for this purpose. Mr. Crocker is well known as a poultry fancier and has raised some of the finest poultry found in Whiteside county. He now has six hundred chickens upon his place and is preparing to raise them on a still more extensive scale. In all of his business he is very progressive, brooking no obstacles that can be overcome by determined and honest effort, and as the years have gone by he has met with a success that is as commendable as it is gratifying.

On the 21st of May, 1883, Mr. Crocker was married to Miss Pluma Mickle, who was born in Ustick township, this county, August 13, 1866, a daughter of Lorenzo Mickle. Their children are four in number: Effie Myrtle, now the wife of William J. Forth, postmaster and merchant of Fenton; Maggie Elmyra, the wife of Clifford Breed, of Spring Hill, Portland township, this county; and Forest Emory and Nina D., both at home.

Mr. Crocker is an earnest republican in his political views, and has held minor township offices. For many years he has served as a director in the schools, and the cause of public education finds in him a stalwart champion. In a review of his life it will be found that his advancement in the business world has come to him as the direct result of his close application and unfaltering perseverance. He has known how to use his time and his opportunities to the best advantage, and no resident of the locality is a better judge of the value of stock, so that he is able to make judicious investments while from his sales he derives a good profit.

CHARLES A. EMMITT.

Charles A. Emmitt is a representative farmer of Hume township, his home being on section 2. He is numbered among Illinois' native sons, his birth having occurred in Lee county on the 4th of June, 1865. His parents were William and Alice (Teats) Emmitt, the former a native of Canada, born in 1844, and the latter a native of Portland township, Whiteside county, Illinois, born in 1853. William Emmitt was but an infant when brought to the United States by his parents, who lived for a time in Michigan. William Emmitt was but fifteen years of age when he came to Sterling and was only a lad of eighteen years when he offered his services to the country in defense of the Union cause, enlisting in the Seventy-fifth Illinois Infantry, with which he served for three years. He proved himself a brave and loyal soldier, manifesting courage equal to that of many a veteran of twice his years. After receiving an honorable discharge he returned to Sterling, where he married, and then began farming in Whiteside county. He rented land east of Rock Falls for two years and then with the money he had earned purchased a farm in Lee county, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1886. In that year he bought a farm in Whiteside county,

upon which he resided until 1902, when he retired and removed to Rock Falls, where he and his wife are now living in the enjoyment of the fruits of former toil. He derives a good income from his farming property, owning three hundred and twenty acres of land in Lee county and one hundred and twenty acres in Whiteside county, beside town-property in Rock Falls. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt were born six children: Arthur, now a resident of Sterling; Charles, of this review; William, who is living in Lee county; John, also a resident of that county; and Ross and Walter, who make their home in Whiteside county.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Charles Emmitt in his boyhood and youth. He acquired a common-school education and during the winter months pursued his studies, while in the summer seasons he worked in the fields. Thus his time passed in the pleasures of the playground, the duties of the schoolroom and the labors of the farm, and when he put aside his text-books his undivided attention was given to farm work on the old homestead until nineteen years of age, when he removed to the city and secured a position in the Keystone shops. He afterward worked in different factories in Sterling and also in Chicago but resumed the occupation to which he had been reared in 1894 by renting a farm from his father in Lee county. When his earnings justified his purchase of land he bought his present place of two hundred and eighty acres in 1900. It is a fine farm, situated on the banks of the Rock river, and is appropriately styled the Pond Lily farm. It is well improved, being supplied with modern conveniences and accessories, and here he carries on general agricultural pursuits and to some extent engages in stock-raising. He keeps abreast with the most advanced ideas of modern farming and his labors are attended with gratifying results.

On the 23d of January, 1894, Mr. Emmitt was married to Miss Lois Van Dusen, who was born in Saginaw, Michigan, December 21, 1869, and is a daughter of James and Mary (Stewart) Van Dusen. Her father, who was born in the state of New York in 1826, died in 1871, while the mother, who was born in 1838, is now living with Mrs. Emmitt. Mr. Van Dusen was a railroad contractor and on coming to Whiteside county settled in Rock Falls in 1870. He had previously served his country as one of the "boys in blue" of the Union Army. Just a month after Fort Sumter was fired upon he offered his aid, enlisting May 13, 1861, as a member of Company F, Third Michigan Infantry. He remained at the front for three years, was promoted from the ranks to the position of first sergeant and was honorably discharged in Detroit, Michigan, in June, 1864. His health had become greatly impaired by the rigors and hardships of war and he only lived for one year after coming to Whiteside county. Unto him and his wife were born three children: James, now deceased; Mrs. Emmitt; and Walter, a resident of Chicago.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt has been blessed with one child, Leroy. The parents are well known in this community and occupy an enviable position in social circles. Mr. Emmitt votes with the republican party, but has never sought nor desired office. He is classed among that type of

representative American citizens who are termed "self-made men," for his prosperity has been achieved entirely through his own labors and at the cost of hard, self-denying effort. As the years have gone by he has worked persistently and unfalteringly, and in the capable conduct of his business affairs is to be found the secret of his present substantial position as an agriculturist.

JOHN P. BICKERT.

John P. Bickert, who at different times was closely associated with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county and the commercial development of Morrison, passed from this life on the 26th of October, 1891, leaving behind many friends who sincerely mourned his loss. He was born in Fulda, Germany, June 22, 1832, and after spending the first seventeen years of his life in the fatherland crossed the Atlantic to the new world, attracted by the broader business opportunities here offered. For a time he worked as a laborer in Virginia and Pennsylvania, and in the latter state he also learned the trade of shoemaking, which he followed for several years before coming to the middle west. In 1856 he made his way to Illinois, and took up his abode in Morrison, having spent a brief period in Sterling. Here he began providing for his own support by working at his trade in the employ of S. W. Johnston, with whom he continued until the spring of 1860. In that year he bought out his employer's business and became a shoe merchant on his own account, conducting his store with success and profit until 1874. In that year he withdrew from the field of commercial activity and bought a farm in Union Grove township, after which he turned his attention to the tilling of the soil. In this he also met with success, annually gathering good crops, but finally he sold his farm and returned to Morrison. In 1883, in partnership with his son-in-law, H. H. Peterson, he again became engaged in the boot and shoe business and continued therein until 1890, when he retired permanently from commercial life, having in the meantime acquired a handsome competence, sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. His business methods were at all times straightforward and reliable, and his marked spirit of enterprise constituted an important element in his financial advancement.

On the 22d of April, 1862, Mr. Bickert was married to Miss Mary Ann Blose, who died February 11, 1864, leaving a daughter, Carrie, who is now the wife of H. H. Peterson, of Morrison. They had five children: John B.; Mary J.; Charles F., deceased; Emerson B.; and Frank A. On the 10th of October, 1879, Mr. Bickert was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Jennie Dufour, who was born in Tompkins county, New York, October 8, 1843, a daughter of George and Ruth Hopkins. Her father was born in Connecticut and was able to trace his ancestry back to a Hopkins who came to this country in the Mayflower. His father, George Hopkins, served as a soldier in the war of 1812. Stephen A. Hopkins, one of the signers of

the Declaration of Independence, was a great-great uncle of Mrs. Bickert. In 1855 Mrs. Bickert came to the middle west with her aunt, Sarah Chandler, who died four days after their arrival in Lee county, Illinois. She then lived with her uncle, Thomas Hopkins, for a number of years. Mrs. Bickert is a lady of cheery disposition and keen intellect, and takes an active and prominent part in social affairs, and is also regarded as one of the leading members of the Eastern Star, the Woman's Relief Corps, and similar organizations. As indicated by her ancestral history, she is also eligible to membership in the society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

In addition to his town property, Mr. Bickert owned about five hundred acres of valuable farming land at the time of his death. On the 25th of September, 1891, while superintending the tearing down of a building on his farm, he met with a serious accident, breaking bones in his right leg and his left ankle, from the effects of which he never recovered. He was a man of sterling worth and held in high esteem by those who knew him. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity and in politics he was a democrat. On the 26th of October, 1891, he was called to his final rest, when in the sixtieth year of his age. As merchant and farmer he was favorably known in the business circles of the county, and those whom he met socially entertained for him the warmest regard. His life was honorable and upright, and his example well worthy of emulation. Mrs. Bickert still makes her home in Morrison and is a favorite in the social circles of the city.

ROBERT WATT.

Robert Watt devotes his time and energies to farming and stock-raising and also raises hogs on quite an extensive scale. His unceasing activity as the years have gone by finds tangible evidence in his present success, for he is today the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred acres on section 24, Union Grove township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he gives personal supervision. In his life he manifests many of the strongly marked characteristics of the Scottish race, including the fidelity to principle and the stalwart industry which marks those who come from the land of hills and heather. He was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, May, 29, 1850.

His father, John Watt, a native of the same locality, was born in November, 1800, and there resided until sixty-seven years of age, when he came to America and made his way direct to the farm in Union Grove township, Whiteside county, Illinois, upon which Robert Watt is now living. The capital which he brought with him to the new world was invested in forty acres of land and to this he added as opportunity offered and his financial resources permitted, making his home upon the farm until his life's labors were ended in death in August, 1894. His study of the political situation of the country and of the position of the two great parties led him to give his support to republican principles. An earnest Christian man, he held membership in the Presbyterian church and served as one of its elders. He



JOHN WATT

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married Miss Margaret Young, who was born in Renfrewshire, Scotland, in 1808, and died in February, 1898, in this county. She was a devoted member of the Presbyterian church.

Robert Watt had one sister, Mary, who died in early womanhood in 1890. He was reared in Scotland and pursued his education in its public schools. When seventeen years of age he came with his parents to America and has ever followed in the business footsteps of his father, carrying on the work of the farm in the various departments connected with the cultivation of the fields and the raising of stock. He makes a specialty of Poland China hogs, being known as the leading raiser of this breed in Whiteside county, and he annually feeds a carload, finding a ready sale on the market. A lot of spring pigs, about ten months old, which he sold in 1908 averaged three hundred and seventy-four pounds in weight. His farm is splendidly improved and about two-thirds of it is in grass, surrounded by two miles of hog-proof fence.

Mr. Watt was married to Miss Grace Jurken, who was born in Oldenburg, Germany, in 1875, and is a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Jerders) Jurken, who arrived in Whiteside county in 1885, settling in Galt. Mrs. Watt is one of a family of eight children, all of whom are residents of this county. By her marriage she became the mother of three children: Margaret, ten years of age; Harry, a lad of seven years; and James, who was born in 1907.

Politically Mr. Watt is a republican, but has neither time nor inclination for office. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and are held in high esteem in the community, having many warm friends here.

R. N. HELLIER.

R. N. Hellier owns and operates a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Tampico township. He was born in Bureau county, Illinois, October 29, 1876, and is, therefore, but thirty-two years of age. His parents were Robert and Adwilda Hellier, of whom further mention is made in connection with the sketch of Mrs. Mary C. Hellier on another page of this volume.

R. N. Hellier spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm and acquired a good common-school education, graduating from the high school at Tampico. He was carefully trained in the work of the fields and lessons of industry and integrity were early impressed upon his mind. On starting out in life on his own account he rented land, which he cultivated for three years, and during that time his industry and careful expenditure brought him capital sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm of his own. He then invested in one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 22, Tampico township, where he now resides. This was partially improved and he has further continued the work of development and cultivation, transforming the place into a valuable property by reason of the care

and labor he has bestowed upon the fields. In all of his farm work he is practical and progressive and accomplishes good results.

In 1898 Mr. Hellier was married to Miss Blanche Fell, who was born in La Salle county, Illinois, in 1875, and is a daughter of Mahlon and Jennie Fell, whose family numbered two children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hellier have been born three children: Eva Deane, Evelyn and Robert. The parents are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, to the support of which they contribute generously. Mr. Hellier's political views are in accord with the principles of the democratic party, and in his fraternal relations he is a Mason, belonging to Lodge No. 655, at Yorktown. He has worked diligently and persistently throughout his entire life to secure the success which he is now enjoying, and which has gained him place among the substantial residents of Tampico township.

THOMAS ROBERTSON.

Among those who were formerly representatives of agricultural life in this county but are now living retired is Thomas Robertson, who for a considerable period was closely associated with farming interests here. He was born in Mount Pleasant township on the 11th of May, 1860, and was one of the thirteen children of Robert and Mary (Boyd) Robertson. The father was a native of Ayrshire, Scotland, and his life record was terminated in death December 15, 1890, when he was in his seventieth year. He crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1842, and first settled at Prophetstown, Illinois, driving to that place across the country from Chicago. After a brief period there passed he removed to Mount Pleasant, where he bought a claim. He had made the journey to the new world in company with his father and mother and he and his father first invested in an eighty acre tract of land. He afterward secured a claim, comprising one hundred and sixty acres, and with characteristic energy and diligence improved the latter, making his home thereon until 1885, when he retired to Morrison, where his remaining days were passed. As an agriculturist he knew what it was to labor persistently and earnestly but found in his intense and well directed activity the secret to success. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and a man of strong religious convictions, who took an active and helpful part in church work and assisted liberally in building the house of worship of that denomination in Morrison. His life was ever upright and honorable in consistent harmony with his professions. His political views were embodied in the principles of the republican party and he held a number of local offices. He was highly respected as a man of sterling principles and of genuine personal worth, whose charitable spirit and kindly disposition gained him the good will of all with whom he came in contact. In early manhood he wedded Mary Boyd, who was born in Stephenson, Ayrshire, Scotland, and died in 1887 in her sixtieth year. She came to the United States to be married, having been a neighbor of her husband in her native village. They

were married the year of her arrival and as the years passed thirteen children were added to the family. The mother was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church and her many good traits of heart and mind won for her the love and confidence of those with whom she was associated. Her parents were William and Mary Boyd. Of the children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Robert Robertson only four reached years of maturity.

Thomas Robertson was reared to farm life, attended the district schools and throughout his business career carried on agricultural pursuits, remaining upon the old homestead farm until December 26, 1906, when he retired to Morrison. However, he still owns the farm property, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of arable land and eleven acres of timber land. In his farm work he was energetic and diligent, carefully cultivating his fields, and as the years passed his labors brought him a desirable financial reward, so that he is now enabled to enjoy life without further recourse to the work of the farm.

On the 20th of November, 1890, was celebrated the marriage of Thomas Robertson and Miss Catherine McLennan, who was born in Rosshire, Scotland, April 8, 1869, a daughter of John and Catherine (McLean) McLennan. Her father was a farmer and both he and his wife died in Scotland. Mrs. Robertson came to the United States with an uncle in 1888 and here met and married Mr. Robertson. The seven children born of this union are as follows: Mary B., born in 1891; Anna C., who was born in 1893; John T., in 1895; Jean M., in 1897; Lucy C., in 1900; Donald G., in 1902; and Burdette A., in 1906. The mother, oldest son and three oldest daughters are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Robertson gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has held a number of township offices, wherein he has proved faithful to the trust reposed in him. Always a resident of Whiteside county, he is widely and favorably known and the fact that many of his staunchest friends have been his acquaintances from boyhood indicates that his has been an upright and honorable career.

MILEDEN GREEN WONSER.

In a history of the representative citizens of Whiteside county, past and present, it is essential that mention should be made of Mileden Green Wonsler, who departed this life a quarter of a century ago, yet is well remembered by many of the older settlers as a prominent and worthy pioneer resident who contributed in substantial measure to the early development and progress of the county, instituting measures and movements which have proven of value in the development of this part of the state as the years have gone by.

He was born August 27, 1805, in Hancock, Delaware county, New York, and died in Erie, Illinois, December 1, 1883. His parents were Jared and Katie (Green) Wonsler, the former of Holland Dutch descent, and the latter of English. Their son, Mileden G. Wonsler, was reared and educated in the east, and after arriving at years of maturity was married at Summer Hill, Cayuga county, New York, on the 12th of August, 1832, to Miss Ruth M.

Churchill, who was born March 12, 1813, in Booneville, Oneida county, New York, and resided in the Empire state until she came with her husband to Illinois. She was a daughter of the Rev. Josiah B. and Octavia (Churchill) Churchill, who were natives of Connecticut and were own cousins, descendants of John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough. The "Churchill mansion" of Weathersfield, Connecticut, was built by Solomon Churchill. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Wonser was Levi Churchill, one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war. The Churchill mansion played a conspicuous part in that war, for therein shoes were manufactured for the American soldiers, and Solomon Churchill thus incurred the hatred of the British, and had his annuity cut off. This ancestor of Mrs. Wonser is yet well remembered by her. He was a remarkable man, of strong individuality, and left the impress of his life upon the community in which he lived and labored. The father of Mrs. Wonser was a Methodist minister and kept his daughter busily employed during her girlhood days in studying the Bible. She lost her mother at the age of seven years, but she always found good friends. Liberal educational privileges were afforded her, and for some time she was a student in the academy in Cayuga county, New York.

As stated, in 1832 she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Wonser, and they remained residents of the east until after the birth of two of their children. They then started on their westward way with Ellisville, Fulton county, Illinois, as their destination. They traveled by canal to Buffalo, by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago, and thence by the Illinois river and on with ox-teams to their destination, reaching Fulton county at a period in its history when "Each new family was received as a relative." It was a day when the most kindly and generous hospitality pervaded the pioneer communities. Each settler gladly shared with another in whatever way he could, giving him assistance and sympathy in his efforts to establish a home on the frontier. For several years Mr. and Mrs. Wonser remained in Fulton county, and on the 12th of February, 1848, arrived in Erie, Whiteside county, where Mr. Wonser spent his remaining days. Here he established a general store, erecting a building in which to carry on business. This building was destroyed by fire in 1854, after which he purchased the "railroad store," which he conducted for eight or ten years. In 1860, attracted by gold discoveries in Colorado, he went to Pike's Peak, but in the fall of the same year returned to Illinois. He then took up the occupation of farming, but lived in Erie, his land being near the village. He was the owner of sixty-five acres, which he cultivated successfully as the years passed, up to the time of his retirement. In the east he had been a fuller in a cloth mill, and later had learned the brick-maker's trade, which he followed in Ellisville, Illinois, serving there as foreman in a brickyard. His life was always one of activity, and his well directed energy brought to him a fair measure of success. He had no financial assistance at the outset of his career, and worked earnestly and untiringly to provide for his family, and as time passed gained a comfortable competence.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wonser were born ten children, of whom five are now living. Octavia Lodusca, who was born June 7, 1833, at Milan, Cayuga

county, New York, was married October 20, 1852, at Erie, Illinois, to Daniel Tift, who died September 7, 1891. On the 7th of June, 1894, his widow became the wife of Joseph Medhurst, and now resides near Galesburg, Illinois. Elizabeth Annette, born October 16, 1835, at Summer Hill, New York, was married in St. Louis, Missouri, October 20, 1851, to Edwin Coburn, who died January 17, 1866, and on the 12th of March, 1867, she became the wife of Elwood Fenton. She is now living in Amador City, California. F. J. M., born May 5, 1838, at Ellisville, was married January 1, 1859, at Erie, Illinois, to Julia C. Weaver. He now resides at Tama, Iowa, and his son, Charles, is editor of the Tama Herald of that city. Marcia W., born March 7, 1840, in Ellisville, Illinois, was married in Erie, March 14, 1859, to John D. Fenton, and died April 17, 1906. Charles, born in Ellisville, February 16, 1842, died there October 20, 1843. Mileden, born May 16, 1844, in Ellisville, died September 27, 1845. Charlotte Eliza, born May 16, 1846, in Ellisville, died September 12, 1850, in Erie. Kate Luella, born April 20, 1848, in Erie, Illinois, became the wife of John Bushee, October 1, 1866, and died May 13, 1870, in Erie. Colonel D., born October 6, 1850, in Erie, was married October 3, 1869, to Maria Kelley, who now resides in Kansas City, Missouri. Ruth R., born January 23, 1853, in Erie, Illinois, resides with her mother.

Mr. Wonser gave his political allegiance to the whig party until Stephen A. Douglas became the leader of the democracy and the new republican party was formed. He then joined its ranks and continued one of its stalwart supporters until his death. He filled the office of justice of the peace here for many years, and in Fulton county held the office of sheriff. He also served in many official positions in the village of Erie, and his devotion to the public good was ever above question. At all times her service was actuated by patriotism and loyalty. After coming to this county he secured forty acres of the present site of Erie and donated the site for the building of the original town. He secured the forty acres as a claim, giving to James McMillan, who was going to the land office to enter a similar amount, the money necessary for the purchase of Mr. Wonser's land. Mr. McMillan entered the entire eighty acres in his name, and when he returned gave Mr. Wonser the deed to forty acres, but the way in which it was entered does not show Mr. Wonser's name upon the record. Later Mr. Wonser donated seven acres for a school site. It was his desire that this amount should be kept for school purposes, that the school house might have a park around it, but the lots were afterward sold off and the money went into the school funds of the township—a sum of one thousand dollars—and Erie today shares in the interest of that gift. He also stood for progress and improvement, and his labors were an effective force in promoting the welfare and upbuilding of the county. His ideals of life were high, and he conformed strictly to them in his actions, so that when he was called to his final rest his death was deeply regretted. He lived to be more than seventy-eight years of age, and his wife died, on the 3rd day of April, 1908, at the very advanced age of ninety-five years.

Mrs. Wonser preserved her mental faculties in a remarkable degree and was always poetic in her expression. Her creed of life was "To be good and

to do good," and this found daily exemplification in her relations with those with whom she came in contact. There were no physicians here when she arrived, and for twenty years she devoted many hours to attending the sick, and practiced medicine both before and after a regular physician had located in Erie. She responded to sick calls which took her a distance of over a thousand miles from home, going to South Carolina to administer to a woman who was ill there, and who under her treatment recovered. For the last twenty-eight years of her life, however, Mrs. Wonser was crippled owing to a fall, and was forced to use crutches. Although so well advanced in years, she largely kept in touch with the trend of modern thought and progress, was well informed, and a good writer. She is said to have been the oldest lady living in Whiteside county, and not a person residing in the village of Erie today was here at the time of her arrival. No history of the county would be complete without mention of Mr. and Mrs. Wonser. She did much good in the world, possessing a kindly, sympathizing spirit, which always responded quickly to the call of those in need.

HENRY CLAY ALLEN.

Henry Clay Allen, carrying on general farming on section 11, Lyndon township, is also well known in business circles as the vice president of the Mount Pleasant Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Morrison, of which he was a director for five years. His life record began on the 15th of June, 1868, near Manteno, Kankakee county, Illinois, and in the following spring was brought to Whiteside county by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Marion Allen. The father was a native of Cattaraugus county, New York, born in the town of Erie, October 30, 1835, his parents being George W. and Sophronia (Besse) Allen. The grandfather, George W. Allen, was born in Skaneateles, New York, October 22, 1801, and was a son of Ethan Allen. In the county of his nativity he was reared to manhood and there married Sophronia Besse in 1825. She was born in Westmoreland county, New York, March 11, 1802. After his marriage, George W. Allen bought a tract of land at Wales, New York, situated in the Holland purchase, on which he resided until 1844, when he sold out and came to Illinois, covering the entire distance with two covered wagons drawn by four horses, bringing with him his family and household goods. He made a location in DuPage county, but in 1846 removed to Kankakee county, settling in the town of Rockville. There with a soldier's warrant he located one hundred and sixty acres, on which he built a frame house and barn and made the usual improvements. In 1868 he sold the place for forty-five dollars per acre. He continued farming until his death, July 21, 1884. His first wife died in Kankakee county in 1850, and on the 4th of August, 1853, he wedded Mary Ann Kearns. By his first marriage he had five children, including Francis M. Allen, the others being Albert; Sarah Ann, the wife of L. G. Tubbs; Seymour J.; and Mandane, the wife of Milton Bloom. By the second marriage there were two children,



H. C. ALLEN

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Ethan G. and Ada, the latter the wife of W. E. Freeman. In 1869 George W. Allen came to Whiteside county and settled on what is now section 4, Lyndon township. Associated with his son, A. B. Allen, he afterwards purchased five hundred and forty-seven acres on sections 4, 9 and 16, Lyndon township, most of which was already improved.

Francis M. Allen was nine years of age when the family removed westward to Kankakee county, Illinois, where he spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He was married August 5, 1858, to Miss Melvina Mann, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, October 8, 1840, and was a daughter of Alexander and Maria (Bumpus) Mann, who during the early girlhood of Mrs. Allen removed westward to Kankakee county. Following their marriage, Francis M. Allen and his wife assisted his parents on the homestead farm until 1869, when they took up their abode in Lyndon township, Whiteside county. There he purchased a farm on section 9, and eventually became the owner of two hundred and sixty-five acres of rich land. For many years he carried on general agricultural pursuits, being recognized as one of the substantial and enterprising farmers of the county. He died February 12, 1899. In politics he was a republican, but never sought nor desired the honors nor emoluments of political life. His widow still survives him and makes her home with her children. They had three sons and a daughter: Roderick D., now living in Lyndon township; Rhoda M., the wife of William Hunt, of Galt; Henry C., of this review; Ralph I., who is living in Lyndon.

Since he was brought by his parents to Whiteside county in the spring of 1869, Henry C. Allen has continuously made his home in Lyndon township and was reared to the occupation of farming, which he has continued to make his life work. At the usual age he became a pupil in the common schools and eventually studied in Elliott's Business College, at Burlington, Iowa. In early manhood he operated his father's farm for about five years, and with the money saved from his earnings he purchased a farm that now belongs to his brother Ralph. On selling it he returned to the old home place, where he lived for a year and in 1899 he purchased his present farm, comprising two hundred and five acres on section 11, Lyndon township. He has made many of the improvements here, and is now engaged in general farming with excellent success. Everything about the place is kept in good condition, and the latest improved machinery is used to facilitate the work of the fields. Year by year he gathers good crops, which find a ready sale on the market and his success is thus annually augmented. He is also well known as vice president of the Mount Pleasant Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Morrison and was one of its directors for five years.

On the 12th of March, 1891, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Stella Wilser, a native of Lyndon township, born January 1, 1868. She is a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Roe) Wilser, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. Her parents are now residents of Lyndon township. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Allen has been blessed with four children, Frank E., Margaret M., Marion and Elsie May.

Mr. Allen is well known as a stalwart advocate of the republican party, whose position is never an equivocal one concerning political measures or

other interests of vital importance. He has been honored by his fellow townsmen with some local offices, and has served for thirteen years as highway commissioner, while his present term will continue him in the office for two years more. He was also a school director for a number of years in both districts in which he lived. He stands for general improvement and progress in educational as well as agricultural lines and anything relating to the welfare of the community is sure to receive his endorsement and his active co-operation. He has been a resident of the county for almost forty years and is well known to many of its citizens as a man of sterling worth and commendable characteristics.

J. T. NICEWONGER.

J. T. Nicewonger, a farmer and stock man of Garden Plain township, was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, January 23, 1851, his parents being Joseph and Margaret (Hull) Nicewonger. The ancestors of the family came to America at an early day and settled in Pennsylvania. The Hull family came from England also at an early period in the development of the new world. Joseph Nicewonger engaged in freighting between Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and Baltimore, Maryland, prior to the days of railroad transportation, and was a man of prominence and influence in his community, cooperating in many movements for the public good. At one time he was colonel of the home guards. After his marriage he still continued to drive what was then called a line team, and transported goods from one point to another, becoming well known along the route which he followed. After some years spent in freighting he purchased a farm in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits. He died in 1869, at the age of sixty-eight years, while his wife survived until 1892, and passed away at the age of seventy-six. They had a large family of children: Levi, who is deceased, while his family resides near Stockton, California; Daniel, who died leaving his family in Albany, while one son is now living in Belvidere, South Dakota; Jane, the wife of Samuel Fry, of Latrobe, Pennsylvania; Catherine, who has passed away; Jacob T., who is deceased, while his family resides near Greensburg, Pennsylvania; Josephine, who is the widow of John Hitchcock, of Stockton, California; Rebecca, the deceased wife of James Herington; M. Hayes, living in Stockton, California; Sina, the wife of William Rexroad, of Newton, Kansas; John, of this review; George, deceased, while his widow resides near Stockton, California; Margaret, who was the twin sister of George, and is the widow of George Van Nest, of Hampton, Iowa; and Samuel C., who is residing in San Francisco, California. Following her husband's death, Mrs. Nicewonger removed with the family to Rock Island county, Illinois, in 1871, and located at Hillsdale. She remained there, however, for only a year and a half, and then came to Whiteside county with her son, J. T. Nicewonger, the eldest of the family. They established their home in Garden Plain township, and the subject of

this review worked for his brother, Daniel, on a farm. The latter was one of the early settlers of the county, locating here immediately after the Civil war.

John Nicewonger acquired his education largely in Pennsylvania, and attended school for a year and a half after coming to this county. He was in his brother's employ for two and a half years, and early learned the value of untiring industry and unfaltering diligence. He was married January 22, 1874, and purchased a farm in Union Grove township, where he resided until 1885, when he removed to the Garden Plain district and rented land for eleven years. In 1890 he purchased the place upon which he now resides, comprising one hundred and twenty acres of improved land, for which he paid fifty dollars an acre. This property is today worth one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre, owing to the natural rise in value, but more to his cultivation and the many improvements he has placed upon it. In its midst stands a substantial residence, and there are also good barns and sheds. He did not move to this place until 1896, since which time he has made it one of the most delightful farms of Whiteside county. In addition to tilling the soil, Mr. Nicewonger makes a specialty of raising fine Duroc Jersey hogs, and has won a number of prizes upon them when exhibiting them at the county fairs. For a number of years he has also been breeding draft horses, and has gained the reputation of raising some of the finest horses of this breed in the western portion of Whiteside county. He has gained various blue ribbons on his stock at the Whiteside county fairs, held in Morrison, and in 1907 won the prize for three-year-olds with a stallion called Charley, with white markings. He is now nearly four years old, weighs sixteen hundred pounds, and stands sixteen and a half hands high. He is of Percheron stock and will be one of the finest stallions in this section of the state when fully grown. Mr. Nicewonger is also the owner of some of the finest mares of the county. He takes special pride in his stock, as well as in the products of the fields, and in both branches of production has only the best grades.

Mr. Nicewonger was married in 1874 to Miss Lovicia O. Van Nest. The first Van Nest who came to America was Peter Peterson Van Nest, who arrived from Holland in 1647 and settled in New Jersey. His son, George Van Nest, was the father of Abraham Van Nest, and the latter had a son, John Van Nest. His son was John Van Nest, second. John Van Nest, second son of John and Dinah Van Nest, was born September 12, 1767, and died February 28, 1822. He married Ida Bergan, March 13, 1794. Her birth occurred November 22, 1775, and she passed away October 12, 1852. They were the parents of ten children: Eliza, John Bergan, Abraham, George, Dinah, Christopher, Sarah Bergan, Peter Bergan, Moriah and Catherine.

Peter Bergan Van Nest, born March 11, 1812, was the father of Mrs. Nicewonger. He came to Whiteside county in 1837, located in Albany and there engaged in blacksmithing until 1853, when he removed to a farm in Garden Plain township, where he resided until his death, May 21, 1885. He was married in Albany, December 18, 1842, to Nancy Olds, a daughter of Cheney and Anna (Walker) Olds. Her father came from Massachusetts to this county in 1838 and followed the shoemaker's trade in Albany. When

Mrs. Van Nest became a resident of that place there were only twelve families living in Albany, and the Indians in the surrounding country were far more numerous than the white settlers. This was Black Hawk's favorite hunting ground, and the Indians were loathe to leave this region. Mrs. Van Nest experienced all of the hardships and privations of pioneer life, but lived to see many changes in the county ere she was called to her final rest, November 25, 1887, when sixty-three years of age. They were both members of the Congregational church, of which Mr. Van Nest was deacon for many years. Their family numbered ten children, eight of whom reached years of maturity, namely: George D., who is now deceased, while his family resides in Hampton, Iowa; Henry B., of Peabody, Kansas; Ida E., the deceased wife of Herbert Simpson; Lovicia O., now Mrs. Nicewonger; Sarah E., the wife of James Coyne, of Garden Plain; Walter C., of Albany; Willis W., of Lyons, Iowa; and John F., of Albany.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicewonger were the parents of three children: Nancy M., the wife of Clarence Sweet, of Garden Plain township; Maude L., the wife of Jesse Slaymaker, of Newton township; and Ida V., at home. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church of Garden Plain, of which Mr. Nicewonger has served as elder for eighteen years, and as Sunday-school superintendent for fifteen years, while in 1905 he was delegate from the Rock River presbytery to the general assembly at Des Moines, Iowa. His wife is equally interested in church work with him, and they do all in their power to promote the various church activities, while in their lives they exemplify their religious faith in the close adherence to the teachings of their denomination. Mr. Nicewonger is also greatly interested in politics, and is a stalwart republican who keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, and upon all subjects pertaining to the public welfare. He is honored and respected by all who know him for his many excellent traits of character, his kindly actions and his upright purposes, and his many friends will receive with pleasure this record of his career.

MRS. SARAH J. MILLER.

Mrs. Sarah J. Miller is a highly esteemed woman, making her home on a well-improved farm of eighty acres situated on section 21, Newton township. She was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1854, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Clough) Turner, who were natives of England and came to America at an early day, establishing their home in Philadelphia. The father, hoping to enjoy better business advantages in the west, brought his family to Illinois in 1853, making a location at Albany, Whiteside county. Subsequently he purchased land in Newton township and was there engaged in general agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days. Both the parents are now deceased, the mother having passed away in 1904, while the father survived for only about a year, his death occurring in 1905. Their family numbered two daughters and a son: Sarah J., whose name introduces



MR. AND MRS. W. M. MILLER

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this review; Anna E., the wife of Roy Booth, a resident of Newton township; and Robert A., who has passed away.

Sarah J. Turner, the eldest of her father's family, was but two years of age at the time of the parents' removal to Illinois. Her girlhood days were spent under the parental roof, during which time she acquired her education in the common schools. Under her mother's instruction she was trained in the duties of the household, so that she was well qualified to take charge of a home of her own, when, in 1888 she gave her hand in marriage to William M. Miller, who was born and reared in Whiteside county. He was a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Thompson) Miller, both of whom were natives of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Whiteside county, the father entering government land in Newton township. The father was three times married and his son William M. was the sixth in order of birth in a family of seven children born of the second marriage, the record being as follows: Joseph E., deceased; Sarah, who resides in Whiteside county; John N., also deceased; Mary J., a resident of Whiteside county; S. T., a resident farmer of Newton township; William M., and Moses F., who has also passed away. Extended mention of the family is made in connection with the sketch of S. T. Miller on another page of this work.

William M. Miller was reared to agricultural life in Newton township, assisting his father in carrying on the work of the fields until the time of his marriage to Miss Sarah J. Turner. At that time he established his home upon a farm in Newton township, being engaged in general agricultural pursuits until the time of his demise, which occurred August 31, 1905. No man of this section of Whiteside county was ever more respected or more fully enjoyed the confidence of the people than did Mr. Miller. He was a loyal friend, a kind husband and father and it is in his own household where his loss is most deeply felt.

By her marriage Mrs. Miller has become the mother of four children; the first two deceased. The two surviving sons, Milo C. and Clyde E., are with their mother on the home farm, which comprises eighty acres of well-improved land situated on section 21, Newton township. Mrs. Miller is a faithful and consistent member of the Presbyterian church and has many friends in Newton township, where from her infancy she has made her home.

EDWIN W. PAYNE.

Edwin W. Payne, an honored veteran of the Civil war, whose loyalty and valor was proven on southern battlefields and who, in all the succeeding years, has been equally faithful to his country and her interests, is now living amid pleasant surroundings in Morrison. He was born in Lebanon, New Hampshire, February 8, 1837. His father, William Payne, also a native of that place, came of English ancestry, but the family was established on American soil at an early day in the colonization of the new world, the first

representatives of the name in America settling on Cape Cod in 1639. Daniel Waters, one of the great grandfathers of our subject, was a member of two different regiments in the Revolutionary war, enlisting each time from Connecticut. He was in the service altogether three years, was a lieutenant in Captain Ephraim Warren's Fifth Company on the Connecticut line.

William Payne, the father of our subject, followed the occupation of farming as a life work, and in 1838 arrived in Illinois, settling first in Jackson county, where he devoted his energies to general farming until 1845. That year witnessed his arrival in Whiteside county, which was still largely an undeveloped district and rich in its natural resources yet awaiting the awakening touch of man to demonstrate its possibilities for agricultural development. He located in the town of Newton, where he entered a tract of land on section 14, securing his title from the government. Upon that place he turned the first furrows, and as the years passed he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, gaining prosperity as the result of his unremitting diligence and well directed labor. In 1873 he left the farm and removed to Morrison, where his remaining days were passed. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a class leader for many years, while in the various departments of the church work he was actively and helpfully interested. His political views in early life accorded with the principles of the whig party, and upon its dissolution he joined the ranks of the new republican party. His fellow townsmen called him to the offices of justice of the peace and highway commissioner, and in both positions he was loyal to the trust reposed in him.

William Payne was married to Miss Eliza Wells who, like her husband, was of English lineage and of Revolutionary stock. Her parents were Reuben and Polly (Swetland) Wells, the former a farmer of New Hampshire, in which state he died. The mother afterward came to Illinois with her son, Rev. Dennis Wells, a Methodist minister, and settled in Jackson county, this state. Her daughter, Mrs. Payne, was born in Lebanon, New Hampshire, in 1808, being a month older than her husband. His death occurred November 16, 1892, when he was in his eighty-fifth year, and his wife survived until 1895. They were the parents of seven sons, as follows: William A., for seventeen years a pilot on the Mississippi river, and also served as deputy county clerk of Whiteside county from 1873 until within a short time of his death, which occurred in 1902. Allen W. passed away when a youth of twelve years. Edwin W., whose name introduces this review, is the next in order of birth. Charles Adams passed away when a little lad of eight years. Lucien Augustine, who served for three years as a member of Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in the Civil war, is now commissioner of water and electric light at Hastings, Nebraska. Ira Arthur was also a soldier of the Civil war, serving as a member of Company F, Ninety-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. At the age of twenty years he was given a sergeant's warrant for meritorious service on the field of battle. He was killed at Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863. George Howard died at the age of three years. Of this family William A. Payne served as a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting as a member of Company F, Ninety-third Illinois Volun-

teer Infantry, in 1862. He became second lieutenant of his company, and was mustered out with the rank of captain, having served with that rank from the 29th of April, 1863, until the 5th of April, 1864. He took part in many important engagements and was always loyal to the cause which he espoused.

Edwin W. Payne was also a member of Company A, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which went out from Sterling. He enlisted on the 25th of August, 1861, and served for three years, seven months and one day, being honorably discharged April 8, 1865, with the rank of sergeant. He was mustered out at Goldsboro, North Carolina, after having participated in the following engagements: Shiloh, Liberty Gap, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain and Jonesboro. At the last named he lost his right arm by a musket ball wound, while getting into position to charge the enemy's works. He went into the military hospital at Atlanta and remained there from the 1st of September, 1864, until the 23d of October, after which he returned home, and again an amputation of the arm was rendered necessary from the fact that gangrene had set in. When he had sufficiently recovered he rejoined his regiment, and being refused a muster on the lieutenant's commission, he took his discharge and returned home.

During the first summer after his return Mr. Payne engaged in selling Sherman's memoirs, and in October, 1865, he entered the county clerk's office, where he remained as deputy for four years. On the expiration of that period he was elected county clerk, and no higher testimonial of efficiency and capability can be given than the fact that he was continued in office by re-election for twenty-five years. At his first election, in 1869, there were only eleven votes in the whole county cast against him, and these were all in one township. In the administration of the duties of the office he was methodical, exact and painstaking, and his efficient service won high encomiums and unqualified commendation. In 1894 he retired from the position of county clerk and opened an office for the conduct of an insurance, loan and real-estate business, in which department of activity he has since continued with growing success. Since March, 1897, he has attended to all matters pertaining to taxation for the Chicago & North-Western Railroad Company in Illinois. For some years he owned farm lands in the county, but recently sold that property and now lives in a pleasant home in Morrison.

On the 14th of February, 1864, Mr. Payne was married to Miss Cornelia M. Hudson, who was born in the state of New York, and died in April, 1882, at the age of forty-four years. Subsequently he wedded Letitia Happer, who was born in Albany, Whiteside county, Illinois, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah C. Happer, the latter now living with Mrs. Payne, in her ninety-second year. The father was a pioneer farmer of this county, who came in 1845, and later followed merchandising in Albany, where he remained until his death. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Payne was born one child, Edwin Happer, whose birth occurred September 21, 1887, and who is now a student in Wabash College. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church, in which Mr. Payne is serving as a trustee, and in the church work

they are much interested. Mr. Payne is also identified with the various Masonic bodies and belongs to Alpheus Clark Post, No. 118, G. A. R., of which he is a past commander. He wrote the history of his regiment in 1902, and published it under the title of the "Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry in the Civil War." His political allegiance has ever been given the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, and he has served as alderman of Morrison and as justice of the peace. Such, in brief, is the life history of Edwin W. Payne. In whatever relation of life we find him, in official service, in political circles, in business or in social relations, he is always the same honorable and honored gentleman, whose worth well merits the high regard that is uniformly given him.

CHARLES EDWIN WINDOM.

Charles Edwin Windom, engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Sterling, his native city, was born August 14, 1856, his parents being Jonas and Ruth H. (Lumm) Windom, natives of Ohio and Virginia respectively. The father was a son of Hezekiah Windom, who was born in the Buckeye state, and in the year 1849 came to Sterling, where he established a furniture business, so that the name has long been associated with the furniture trade of the city. He was connected with the Society of Friends or Quakers and died here when nearly sixty-four years of age. His wife was in her maidenhood a Miss Spencer. His father was born in Virginia but removed to Ohio at a very early day, settling in Belmont county.

Jonas Windom, the father of Charles E. Windom, followed agricultural pursuits through much of his life. He came to Sterling with his father and here engaged in the hotel business, conducting the old Central hotel in the days when travel was done by stage coach. He afterward conducted a grocery store for a short time and figured in the business life of the city for many years. He died August 14, 1886, at the age of sixty-eight years, while his wife, long surviving him, passed away in 1899, at the age of eighty-two years. Both were members of the Presbyterian church, loyal to its teachings, and in their lives exemplified the leading principles of Christianity. Their family numbered eight children, five of whom reached adult years, namely: Frank F., now a resident of Chicago; Sarah Virginia, deceased; Charles E., of this review; William L. and Edward H., both living in Duluth, Minnesota; and three who died in childhood.

Charles E. Windom has spent his entire life in Sterling and in his youth was a pupil in the old second ward school, where he passed through successive grades, eventually becoming a high-school student. After putting aside his text-books he learned the machinist's trade, which he followed for eight years, and on the expiration of that period he became connected with mercantile interests as a furniture dealer and undertaker. In this business he has continued for twenty-six years as the worthy successor of his grandfather. He has one of the largest stores in the northern part of the

state outside of Chicago, carrying a very extensive line of furniture of all grades and thus being able at all times to meet the demands of a varied public taste. His store is attractive in its arrangement and his business has reached very profitable proportions. Mr. Windom was the inventor of a device for lowering bodies into graves and is the inventor of a cooling board which is destined to attract the attention of undertakers all over the country. In addition to his mercantile interests he is the vice president of the Sterling State Bank.

On the 6th of August, 1890, occurred the marriage of Mr. Windom and Miss Grace Frances Richards, a daughter of Senator Daniel and Frances G. (Barrett) Richards. They now have one daughter, Ruth Helen, who with her parents holds membership in the Congregational church. Mr. Windom belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Sterling Chapter, No. 57, R. A. M.; Sterling Commandery, No. 57, K. T.; Freeport Consistory, S. P. R. S.; and to Tebala Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is also connected with Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and in politics is a republican. Honorable and upright in all life's relations, the many sterling traits of his character have endeared him to his fellow townsmen, gaining him respect and admiration in business circles and the confidence and good will of those whom he has met socially. His influence is always given on the side of improvement and progress and he endorses all those movements and measures which have for their object the betterment of the community at large or the promotion of municipal interests.

H. K. WELLS, M. D.

Dr. H. K. Wells, a prominent and well known practitioner of medicine in Erie, was born in Lebanon, New Hampshire, October 19, 1824, his parents being Reuben and Polly (Swetland) Wells, who were of English descent. The father, whose birth occurred in Massachusetts in 1779, passed away in 1827, when our subject was but two years of age. The mother, born in 1781, died on the 19th of August, 1847.

While attending school at Vergennes, Illinois, Dr. Wells was a classmate of General Logan and also of Judge R. S. Tuttle, now of Chicago. In 1836, when twelve years of age, he went with his brother from New Hampshire to Jackson county, Illinois, where he attended the district schools, and later was a student in McKendree College. Having determined upon the practice of medicine as a life work, he subsequently entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, and after his graduation located in Fairmount, Vermilion county, Illinois, where he was engaged in practice for two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Erie, Whiteside county, in 1865, and has since been successfully engaged in the prosecution of his profession at this place. His success in the application of remedial agencies and in the restoration of health has been so marked that his patronage has continually increased, while his genial and helpful disposition has made him the loved

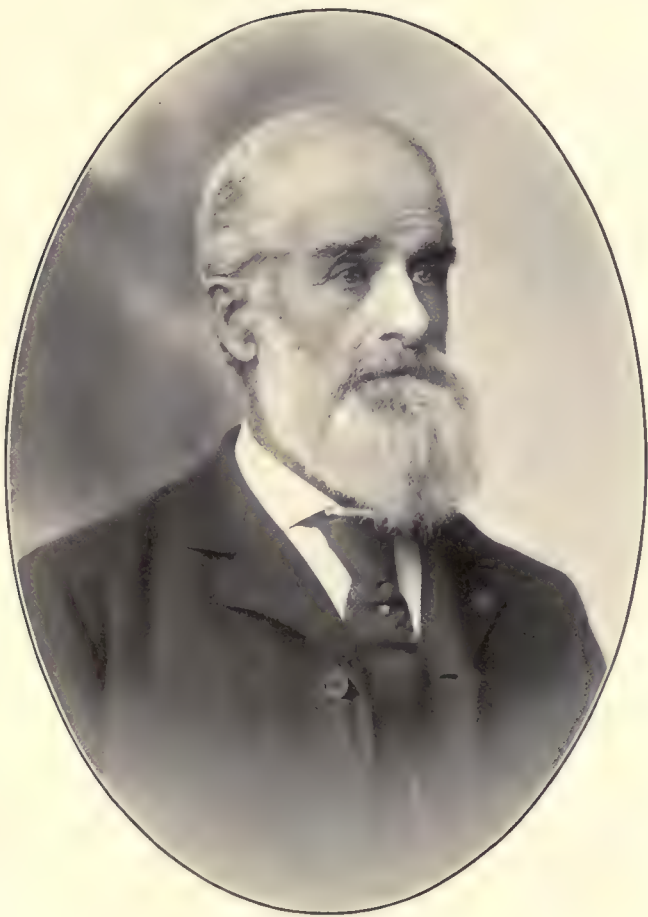
family physician in many a household. Though now almost eighty-four years of age he is still engaged in practice and his record would put to shame many a man of much younger years who, having grown weary of the cares of an active life, would relegate to others the burdens that he should bear. At one time Dr. Wells also conducted a drug store in Erie but after several years disposed of the same. In connection with James C. Hubbard he likewise carried on general merchandising at Erie but soon found that his medical practice demanded his entire attention and sold his interest in the business.

On the 28th of November, 1848, Dr. Wells was united in marriage to Miss Laura L. Burbank, at old Duquoin, Illinois, who was born in New Hampshire, May 25, 1828, and was one of a family of seven children. Unto our subject and his wife were born three children, namely: Emma W., deceased; Corna B. and Arthur M., at home. On the 4th of January, 1896, Dr. Wells was called upon to mourn the death of her who had long been to him a faithful companion and helpmate on the journey of life.

He gives inflexible support to the republican party and takes an active and helpful interest in local politics, having served as justice of the peace and town clerk, while he has also acted as village clerk for several terms, his official duties being discharged with the same fidelity and progressiveness that characterizes him in his professional labors. He is a member of Rock River Camp, No. 14, M. W. A., at Erie, Illinois, while both he and his daughter are identified with the Methodist Episcopal church. Having resided in this county for forty-three years, he has gained an extensive acquaintance and many friends, who esteem him alike for his professional ability and for his upright and honorable manhood.

RENALDO S. LASHER.

Renaldo S. Lasher is now living retired in Morrison, but for many years was identified with agricultural interests, having made his home upon a farm in Union Grove township from 1876 until 1907. His residence in Whiteside county dates from 1870, and in Illinois from 1866. His birth occurred in Harrisburg, Lewis county, New York, August 12, 1839, and of a family of nine children, he is the youngest. His father, William I. Lasher, was born in Palatine, Montgomery county, New York, May 1, 1796, and was descended from German ancestry. When a young man he learned and followed the tailor's trade, and later engaged in farming on a small scale. His political views were in harmony with the principles of the republican party and as a business man and citizen he stood high in the esteem of his neighbors and many friends. His life was in harmony with his professions as a member of the Presbyterian church, and his political allegiance was given to the republican party. He married Lydia Stoddard, who was born at Groton, Massachusetts, May 6, 1798, and died November 25, 1847. She represented one of the old New England families and had two brothers that were soldiers in the war of 1812. She too, was a member of the Presbyterian church. One



R. S. LASHER

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son of the family, William A. Lasher, served in the Civil war as a member of Company M, Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, continuing with that command for almost three years and attaining the rank of sergeant, but is now deceased.

Renaldo S. Lasher was reared to farm life and the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist early became a matter of daily routine with him. He attended the country schools as a boy, and thinking to find better business opportunities in the west he came to Illinois in 1866, settling in Carroll county, where he worked at farm labor by the month for about four years. In 1870 he came to Whiteside county, and took up his abode upon a farm in Union Grove township, having previously purchased this land. Upon that place he remained for a little over three years, when he sold out and removed to a farm in Lyndon township, which he rented for two years. In the spring of 1876 he returned to Union Grove township, and with the capital he had acquired through his own labors bought a tract of seventy-seven acres upon which he lived until the spring of 1907. During the thirty years which passed he transformed his land into one of the best improved farms of the district, and as the result of his careful management and diligence as an agriculturist he won the competence that now enables him to live retired.

In 1868 Mr. Lasher was married to Miss Adaline D. Brown, who was born in Jefferson county, New York, in 1846, a daughter of Cyrus and Tamar (Bent) Brown, who on coming to Illinois first settled in Carroll county in 1856, and in 1868 arrived in Whiteside county, establishing their home in Union Grove township, where their remaining days were passed. Mrs. Lasher was one of a family of six children, and by her marriage became the mother of five children, of whom one died in infancy. The others are: Henry P., a farmer of Ida county, Iowa, who is married and has four children; Luva, the wife of John Martin, of Union Grove, by whom she has one child; Albert C., who graduated from the Iowa State College, at Ames, in the class of 1903, and is now an electrical engineer at Atlanta, Georgia; and John W., who is connected with the Morrison Electric Light Company.

Mr. Lasher is a Mason, interested in the order because of its beneficent spirit and fraternal teachings. He belongs to Alpheus Clark Post, No. 118, G. A. R., being entitled to membership in this organization by reason of his active and valorous service in the Civil war. He enlisted on the 11th of August, 1862, at Copenhagen, New York, in the Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, becoming a member of Company M, with which he remained until honorably discharged at the close of the war, June 26, 1865. He took part in several engagements and for some time was in defense of Washington. He is a republican in politics and for one term served as supervisor from Union Grove township, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs which, capably directed, have brought him a gratifying measure of success, enabling him now to enjoy the fruits of his former toil without further recourse to labor. The example of such a man is a source of inspiration and encouragement, showing what may be accomplished by determined will and

enterprise. His long residence in the county and his upright life have made him widely known and gained for him classification among the representative citizens.

THOMAS MATHEW.

Thomas Mathew, who carries on general farming on section 30, Hopkins township, was born October 9, 1863, in this township, and has always been a resident of Whiteside county. He represents one of its oldest and most prominent pioneer families. His father, Thomas Mathew, has made his home in Hopkins township since 1836. He located here only four years after the Black Hawk war, when there were still many traces of Indian occupancy. The land was largely wild and unimproved and the county gave little evidence of the progress which it was soon to make as the result of the care and enterprise of its worthy pioneer settlers. Establishing his home in Hopkins township, the father shared in all of the hardships and privations of pioneer life and aided in reclaiming the wild region for the purposes of civilization. He prospered as the years passed by and became a large landowner, having five hundred acres, all of which he placed under a high state of cultivation, adding many modern equipments, which included commodious barns, sheds and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock.

Thomas Mathew, Sr., possessed many of the sterling characteristics of the Scottish race to which he belonged. He was born July 15, 1808, in Scotland, and came to America in 1835, living for one year in Vermont, ere his removal to Whiteside county. He was the third in order of birth in a family of seven children, the others being Andrew, Robert, Margaret, Euphemia, Elizabeth, Agnes and Jane. Thomas Mathew, Sr., was married in Hopkins township, November 28, 1862, to Mrs. Margaret Dumire, a daughter of William and Jeannette Mathew. There were two children of that marriage, Thomas, of this review; and Robert Mathew, who died in infancy. The wife and mother died September 25, 1865, and Mr. Mathew was again married in Hopkins township on the 9th of July, 1868, his second union being with Miss Anna B. Thompson, a native of Scotland. Unto them were born four children, Jennie B., William A., Robert A. and Elizabeth G. Again Mr. Mathew was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife in 1876, her death occurring on the 7th of July. He survived until 1892 and passed away at the venerable age of eighty-four years. He was always a stanch republican and held various official positions, to which he was called by the vote of his fellow townsmen, who recognized his worth and ability. He was known as a prominent and representative citizen of the county, esteemed for his many good qualities, and no history of this section of the state would be complete without mention of him because of the fact that he was one of the earliest settlers and as the years passed by contributed in substantial measure to the growth and progress of Whiteside county.

Thomas Mathew, Jr., whose name introduces this record, acquired a common-school education and remained at home, assisting in the operation

of the farm until his father's death in 1892. The property was then divided among his children and he continued upon the home place. Here he carried on general agricultural pursuits and has a property of two hundred acres, whereon he carries on general farming and stock-raising. In the midst of his farm stands a beautiful home, with attractive surroundings and everything about the place is indicative of the care and supervision of the owner.

On the 17th of February, 1885, Mr. Mathew was married to Miss Euphemia Dalrymple, a daughter of William and Jane (Anderson) Dalrymple, who were natives of Scotland and died in that country. Mr. and Mrs. Mathew have but one child, Harold Thomas.

In religious faith the parents are Presbyterians and are most highly esteemed people, enjoying in large measure the confidence and friendship of those with whom they have been associated. Mr. Mathew votes with the republican party, and while he has never sought nor desired political office, he has served for fourteen years as school director and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion. The name of Mathew has ever figured as an honored one in Whiteside county since Thomas Mathew, Sr., located here, and he whose name heads this review is a worthy successor of his father, making an equally creditable record as a successful farmer and honorable man.

ROYCE ANNAN KIDDER.

The subject of this review is actively connected with a profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community and one which has long been considered as conserving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights. In his law practice he is meeting with gratifying success, having secured a creditable clientage during his connection with the Sterling bar.

His life record began in Jordan township, this county, on the 8th of July, 1878. He is descended from New England ancestry, his grandfather being Benjamin Kidder, a native of New Hampshire, who followed the occupation of farming as a life work and came to the west at an early period in the development of Whiteside county. He located in Jordan township and was connected with its early improvement. His last years were spent in Ogle county, where he passed away when more than eighty years of age. His wife, Mary (Doton) Kidder, was also more than eighty years of age at the time of her demise. They had four children, including Marcellus Kidder, who was born in the old Granite state, and was reared to the occupation of farming, which he chose as a life work. He, too, came to Illinois at an early period in its development, and first settled in Lee county, but after a few months took up his abode in Jordan township, Whiteside county, where he owned and cultivated a farm of three hundred acres, bringing the land under a high state of improvement. He still resides in that township, but is now living retired, enjoying a well earned rest. Politically he is a prominent democrat. In community affairs he has always taken a deep and

helpful interest and has served as supervisor and in other township offices. He married Ella J. Annan, also a native of New Hampshire, and a daughter of John G. Annan, who was born in the same state and was of Scotch descent, his ancestors having come from Annandale, Scotland. He, too, was a farmer and he recruited soldiers for the Civil war. In pioneer times he became a citizen of Ogle county, Illinois, and died there in middle life. His wife, Mrs. Hannah B. (Torsey) Annan, was about eighty years of age at the time of her death. Their family numbered three children, including Mrs. Kidder. Unto Marcellus and Ella J. Kidder were born a daughter and son, the former being Ida L., the wife of Alexander Anderson, of Ogle county, Illinois. The parents are consistent and faithful members of the United Brethren church, and are held in high esteem by all who know them.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for R. A. Kidder in his boyhood and youth. He worked in the fields and meadows and attended the district school. Later he had the advantage of mental discipline in the Northern Illinois Normal School at Dixon, and in the Northwestern University at Evanston, being graduated from the academic department in 1899. He afterward attended the Northwestern University Law School, in Chicago, having determined to follow a professional career, completing his course by graduation in June, 1903. In December of the same year he was admitted to the bar, after which he spent some time in the office of James A. Peterson, attorney-at-law, in the Chamber of Commerce building, in Chicago, adding to his theoretical knowledge the practical experience of office work in connection with his profession. In March, 1904, he came to Sterling, where he entered upon the active practice of his profession, and in the four years which have since come and gone he has won for himself favorable criticism as one who prepares his cases carefully and presents his cause in clear, forceful and logical manner. He is usually correct in the application of legal principles, and he is now acknowledged one of the most successful among the younger members of the Sterling bar.

Mr. Kidder belongs to the Congregational church and to Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., and Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M., of Sterling. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, and he gives his aid and cooperation to progressive public measures, being interested in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. He is not a politician, however, in the sense of office seeking, preferring rather to give his time to his law practice.

SAMUEL TAYLOR, M. D.

Dr. Samuel Taylor, who in the middle of the nineteenth century became a member of the medical profession of Whiteside county and continued in active practice here until his death on the 30th of January, 1890, was widely known as an able physician and one ever conscientious in the performance of the duties that devolved upon him. He was born March 13, 1829, in

Richland county, Ohio, his parents being Henry and Evelina (Ayers) Taylor, both of whom were natives of Connecticut, whence they removed to Ohio. The father died in Richland county of the latter state in April, 1874, having for several years survived his wife, who passed away September 4, 1863. In their family were seven children: Walter, who engaged in gold mining in California and died there unmarried; Esther, the deceased wife of Dr. William Bricker, of Shelby, Ohio; Burton A., deceased; Samuel, of this review; Alva B., who has also passed away; Mary A., who became the wife of E. D. Anderson and died in Kansas City in 1881; and Angelina, the wife of David Cummins, of Shelby, Ohio.

Dr. Taylor was reared upon his father's farm and attended the common schools, therein mastering the elementary branches of learning. He afterward pursued his studies in Oberlin College, at Oberlin, Ohio, for several years, and with the intention of becoming a member of the medical fraternity, began reading under the direction of his brother-in-law, Dr. Bricker. At a later date he matriculated in the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, pursuing a six months' course in the medical department. The next year found him a student in the Western Reserve Medical College at Cleveland, from which he was graduated in 1854. He then located for practice at Salem, Ohio, where he continued for two years, when, thinking that he might find better business opportunities further west, he came to Whiteside county in the fall of 1855, opening his office in Erie, where he remained for seven years. In 1862 he arrived in Morrison, where he continued actively and successfully in the practice of medicine up to the time of his death, which occurred January 30, 1890. Throughout the intervening years he kept in close touch with the profession through his reading and investigation and thus continually promoted his knowledge and efficiency. In 1870 he formed a partnership with S. S. Hall, which connection continued until May, 1882, when Dr. Hall was succeeded by Dr. Dana B. Seger. Subsequently Dr. Seger retired and Dr. Frank Fitzgerald, a son-in-law of Dr. Taylor, became his partner. Dr. Taylor was widely known as a practitioner of repute and built up an extensive and profitable patronage, being the loved family physician in many a household in Morrison and the surrounding country. He served as county coroner for a number of years and held membership in different medical associations.

On the 26th of December, 1854, Dr. Taylor was united in marriage at Brecksville, Cuyahoga county, Ohio, to Miss Stella Hannum, who was born in that county, September 9, 1835, a daughter of Julius and Martha Hannum. Her father was born October 16, 1780, in Massachusetts, and died December 9, 1853. Her mother, a native of the same place, was born August 13, 1789, and passed away March 28, 1864. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Taylor were born five children. Eva M., born December 1, 1858, in Erie, this county, was married October 30, 1879, to Dr. Frank Fitzgerald, now a prominent and successful physician of Morrison. Walter, born September 11, 1861, died May 13, 1882. Burton, born July 19, 1864, died December 11, 1876. Mary A., born October 27, 1867, married S. M. McCalmont, an attorney of Morrison, Illinois; and William B., born December 23, 1872,

married Miss Grace Hubbell, of Brooklyn, New York, and resides in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he is at the head of the Young Men's Mercantile Library.

The death of the husband and father occurred January 30, 1890. He had been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was in thorough sympathy with the principles and teachings of that organization. His life was an active and useful one, characterized by the strictest conformity to a high standard of professional ethics and by all that is honorable and straightforward in man's relations with his fellowmen. He held to high ideals both in his profession and in citizenship, and his death was the occasion of deep and wide-spread regret when he was called from this life.

PORTER J. HUMPHREY.

Porter J. Humphrey dates his residence in Whiteside county from 1859 and has long figured prominently in agricultural circles. He was born in Genesee county, New York, on the 16th of March, 1836. His father, Nathaniel Humphrey, was likewise a native of the Empire state, born September 13, 1802. He wedded Miss Eliza Barrett, and unto them were born seven children: Albert, who died in Canada, where he was serving as a postmaster; George B., who died February 13, 1908; Charles, who is engaged in the hardware business in Rising City, Nebraska; William, deceased; Erastus, who is now living retired in Clinton, Iowa; Sarah, a resident of this county; and Porter J. The death of the father occurred March 14, 1888, while the mother passed away at the age of sixty-six years.

Porter J. Humphrey was twenty-one years of age when he crossed the border into Canada, where he remained for about two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1859, and has since made his home here, being closely associated with farming interests as the years have gone by. His cooperation has also been a factor in community affairs and has contributed to substantial development and improvement. He has been road commissioner here for thirty years and has done much to improve the public highways. He resided here at the time the first iron bridges were built and has always labored to secure good roads, knowing how valuable they are to the farmer who must carry his produce from the fields to the market.

In December, 1857, Mr. Humphrey was married to Amne Paschal. She first married Silas Winget, by whom she had one son, Leslie. She is a daughter of John D. and Nancy (Short) Paschal, who were married December 20, 1827. The father was one of the old-time residents of Mount Pleasant township and one of its most respected citizens. He came to the west in early manhood from North Carolina and as the years passed his judicious investment and careful management of his business affairs brought him success. Unto him and his wife were born eight children: William P., David B., Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Winget, James A., Frank, Marie and John.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey has been blessed with six children: George D., Nettie, Byron, Willard, Raymond and Luella. In the



P. J. HUMPHREY

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community the parents are widely and favorably known, having for almost a half century been residents of Whiteside county. Mr. Humphrey has now passed the allotted age of scripture—three score years and ten—but in spirit and interest seems yet in his prime. His political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party and fraternally he is an Odd Fellow. He yet gives active supervision to his farm, which is located in Mount Pleasant township not far from Morrison. It bears evidence of his care and supervision in its well developed fields and attractive appearance, for he has led a busy life, successfully devoted to the cultivation of the fields.

HENRY A. HUNTINGTON.

Henry A. Huntington, successfully carrying on agricultural pursuits on section 31, Portland township, was born August 30, 1865, on the farm where he still resides. He is a son of John and Harriet E. (Schmied) Huntington, the former born in Westford, Connecticut, October 6, 1834, and the latter in Pennsylvania, in 1836. In 1838 John Huntington accompanied his parents on their removal westward, the family home being established near Groveland, Tazewell county, Illinois. They went to Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, in 1852, and in 1853 John Huntington removed to his father's farm in Phenix township, Henry county, purchasing sixty acres of the same. In 1859, however, he traded this tract of land for one hundred and three acres in Portland township, Whiteside county, where he remained until 1890, being actively and successfully connected with farming interests throughout that period. He had been married at Spring Hill, Illinois, on the 17th of May, 1857, to Miss Harriet E. Schmied, whose parents located in Portland township, July 3, 1844, the father entering a large tract of land there. As stated, in 1890 Mr. and Mrs. Huntington left the farm and removed to Geneseo, Henry county, where they are now living retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of their former toil. Almost a half century has passed since their arrival in Whiteside county, and they bore their full share in the work of pioneer development here. Their family numbered seven children, as follows: Mrs. Matilda Urick, of Spring Hill, Illinois; Emma, who keeps house for her brother, Henry A.; Lottie, the wife of Charles Little, of Minnesota; John, who resides in South Dakota; Henry A., of this review; Estella R., the wife of Joseph Claypool, of Deer Creek, Illinois; and Daisy, whose death occurred when she was twenty-six years of age.

Henry A. Huntington acquired a common-school education and was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. After he had attained his majority he worked as a farm hand for others for four years, and on the expiration of that period returned to the home farm, having conducted the same ever since. In 1907 he purchased the property, and has met with a gratifying measure of success in his agricultural interests, his fields annually returning golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon them. In con-

nection with his farming interests he has for the past twelve years been selling and putting up woven wire fencing, this branch of his business also proving to him a good source of remuneration. He is a director of the First National Bank at Erie, Illinois, and is widely recognized as one of the representative and successful business men and citizens of his community.

In his political views Mr. Huntington is a republican, and has served as school director, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. He is likewise a member of the Masonic fraternity at Spring Hill, and is well and favorably known in the county where his entire life has been passed, his actions having ever been such as to commend him to the confidence and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact. The name of Huntington has figured in the annals of the agricultural development of this part of the state from pioneer times down to the present, for the work instituted by the grandfather and continued by the father is now being carried on commendably and successfully by the son.

REECHER BROTHERS.

Aaron and Isaac Reeher, brothers, are well known in connection with agricultural and stock-raising interests in Whiteside county. They are sons of Samuel and Leah (Huffman) Reeher, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father brought his family to Illinois in 1865, settling in Whiteside county, and purchased the farm on which his sons are now living in Genesee township. The family numbered fifteen children, of whom six have passed away, while those who survive are: William, a resident of Sterling; Catherine, the wife of James Dean, of Carroll county, Illinois; Aaron and Isaac, of this review; Louise, in Coleta; Ann, who became the wife of Samuel Ealy and resides in Freeport, Illinois; Samuel, now a professor in the high school at Sparta, Illinois; Leah, the wife of Edward Jones, of Whiteside county; and Jacob, a resident of Iowa. The father is still living on the old family homestead where he has now resided for forty-three years, but the mother passed away in 1904.

Aaron Reeher was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, January 17, 1861, and was therefore but four years of age when brought by his parents to Illinois. He continued on the old homestead with his father until twenty-one years of age, when he started out in life on his own account and for a year worked as a farm hand by the month. He saw little chance to make progress in the business world in this way, so he then rented a farm, which he cultivated for two years. On the expiration of that period he made his way to South Dakota, settling in Britton, where he lived for four years, devoting his attention to mechanical pursuits. He next went to Wisconsin, where he resided for two years, and in 1894 returned to this county where he now resides, being associated with his brother Isaac in operating the home farm, which comprises two hundred acres of rich and valuable land. They make a specialty of raising and feeding stock and are well known in

this connection. Both are energetic, enterprising business men, thoroughly conversant with the interests which now claim their attention and their success is well merited.

On the 21st of January, 1882, Aaron Reecher was married to Miss Hattie J. Pratt, who was born in Whiteside county in 1860 and was one of a family of seven children. One son graced this marriage, Roy C., but the mother died in 1891 while they were residing in South Dakota. Isaac Reecher wedded Miss Elizabeth Peaters, who was born in this county, and they now have two children, Beulah and Isabelle.

The brother are democrats in political faith and Aaron Reecher is now serving as assessor of Genesee township, while for several years he served as school director. He belongs to Coleta Camp, No. 76, M. W. A., and is well known in the community. Both brothers are men of determination and stalwart purpose, who are carefully conducting their business interests and meeting with success in their undertakings. They represent one of the old families of the county, having been residents here for more than four decades.

JAMES M. DEETS.

A life of industry is bringing to James M. Deets the success which ever crowns persistent, honest and honorable labor. He carries on farming and wagon-making and his home is in Hopkins township. His birth occurred in Genesee township, this county, April 6, 1865, his parents being Lewis and Margaret (Wetzel) Deets, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ohio. In his youth the father lived near the Rhine but when he was six years of age he was brought by his mother to America, the family home being established in Philadelphia. Three years later they removed to Massillon, Ohio, and subsequently about 1850, came to Whiteside county, settling in Genesee township. Mr. Deets' first purchase of land brought him eighty acres, for which he paid five dollars and a quarter per acre. He afterward sold that property and bought one hundred and sixty acres east of Coleta, for forty dollars per acre. Upon that place he made substantial improvements and brought the farm under a high state of cultivation. Year by year he carefully conducted his labors and met with gratifying success in his undertakings. In 1875 he bought two farms in Hopkins township, one comprising one hundred and sixty acres and the other one hundred and twenty acres. His success was attributable entirely to his own labors, for he started out in life practically empty-handed and as the years passed his diligence and persistency of purpose gained for him a comfortable competence.

In the year 1856 Lewis Deets was married to Miss Margaret Wetzel, a daughter of John and Margaret (Reece) Wetzel, who were natives of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and of Maryland, respectively. They resided for some time in Summit county, Ohio, and afterward removed to Stark county, that state, where they lived until coming to Whiteside county. Mrs. Deets was one of a family of thirteen children and is descended from ancestry

whose loyalty was proven at the time of the Revolutionary war. Her paternal great-grandfather was an extensive miller, owning and operating two large flour mills in Pennsylvania. At the time of the early struggles for American independence he taxed those mills to their utmost capacity, grinding grain to be made into bread for Washington's army. On one occasion his son, the grandfather of Mrs. Deets, then a youth of seventeen, was attacked when hauling supplies for the American army by a squad of British soldiers. He managed to escape but at great risk of his life and seven bullet holes were found in the wagon in which he was driving. His mother shared the patriotic spirit of the family, doing everything in her power to promote the cause of liberty. She begged bread for the army until she became afflicted with blindness and did everything she could for the comfort and welfare of the soldiers.

Lewis Deets, the father of our subject, was a soldier of the Civil war. In 1861 he left the plow and went to the defense of the Union, encouraged by his brave wife. He enlisted at Polo, Illinois, in Company H, of the Fifty-fifth Illinois Infantry, under command of Colonel Heffleman and served until the close of hostilities, participating in the siege of Vicksburg, the battles of Chancellorsville and Lookout Mountain and other engagements. At the close of the war he returned home and resumed the pursuits of civil life, continuing to devote himself to his home and his business until he was called to his final rest on the 14th of July, 1882. He left a record of good citizenship and of noble character. He was widely known as a devoted husband and father and a faithful friend. His family numbered twelve children: Wilson W., a farmer residing at Emerson, this county; Elizabeth, the wife of Henry Johnson, a grain buyer and landowner, who possesses over a thousand acres of land in the state of Washington near Almira; Charles F., who is a successful lawyer living at Davenport, Washington, and serving as county treasurer of his county; James M., of this review; and eight who died in infancy.

James M. Deets was educated in the common schools of Emerson and at the age of seventeen learned the trade of wagon-making. He attended night schools and made use of every opportunity for advancement in intellectual as well as business lines. When twenty-one years of age he started in business on his own account and began wagon-making in 1886. He is an excellent workman and turns out a superior product. He also carries on farming and has a tract of rich land of three hundred and fifty acres in Hopkins township and four hundred and eighty acres in Douglas county, Washington. He is a man of resolute spirit, who carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. His work is carefully systematized and the best results are thus obtained.

On the 8th of November, 1888, Mr. Deets was married to Miss Olive E. Carolus, who was born in Emerson, Illinois, February 8, 1871, a daughter of William and Margaret (Feightner) Carolus, both natives of Pennsylvania. Her paternal grandfather, George Carolus, was a farmer by occupation and spent his entire life in the east, dying in 1856. He was married February 3, 1829, in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, to Elizabeth Kuhn, who was born March 26, 1803, in Franklin county, that state, and four years after the

death of her husband she came to Sterling, Illinois, where she died December 31, 1900, her pall-bearers being six grandsons, namely: Dr. W. B. Carolus, Dr. I. B. Carolus, Dr. Walter Carolus, George Carolus, Herbert Carolus and Charles Carolus. She was a faithful Christian, a member of the Presbyterian church. William Carolus, the father of Mrs. Deets, was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, September 10, 1838, and came to Illinois when a young man, here following carpentering and farming. He died December 3, 1900. In 1869 he married Margaret Feightner, who was born in Pennsylvania, October 18, 1838, and was quite young when she came to Illinois. She is still living in Emerson. Her father was Solomon Feightner, who was also a native of the Keystone state, and from there removed to Craig, Missouri, where he resided for a few years. He then came to Sterling, but later made his home with his daughters in Arkansas, where he died in 1886. He married a Miss Wagner, who departed this life in 1854. Mrs. Deets has two brothers and two sisters, namely: Harry and Charles, residents of Alma, Washington, where they own a large tract of land and are engaged in raising wheat; Iowa, now the wife of Charles T. Deets, living at Davenport, Washington; and Clara, who married Frank Baird and lived in Jordan township, this county, until her death, June 1, 1907. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Deets have been born four children: Florence, born April 25, 1889; Lester, February 8, 1891; James, November 27, 1892; and Lee, May 4, 1898.

Mr. Deets is a member of Emerson Camp, No. 3994, Modern Woodmen of America. He votes the republican ticket and has been assessor for a number of years, also school director and school trustee. He has served as a member of the republican county committee and is recognized as one of the local leaders of the party. His religious faith is that of the Methodist church. Having spent his entire life in this county, he is widely known, and that his career is an honorable and straightforward one is indicated by the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

SERGEANT ANSON E. THUMMEL.

Anson E. Thummel, a veteran of the Civil war, whose well directed labors and unflinching diligence in former years make possible his present retirement from active business life, now lives in Sterling. His birth, however, occurred in Lexington, South Carolina, on the 22d of September, 1841, his parents being the Rev. Christian Bernard and Catherine (Lattin) Thummel. The former was born in Jever, Germany, and in early manhood crossed the Atlantic to the new world. He was not rugged in his boyhood days, and did not take the interest in outdoor boyish sports and exercises as most youths did, but early turned his attention to books and became very studious, pursuing a long and laborious course of study. At the age of ten years he entered upon a three years' course in a gymnasium, and further continued his studies in the university preparatory to entering the ministry. He left that

institution in 1820, and in 1822, with a close companion by the name of Müller, he matriculated in the university at Tübingen, in Wurtemberg, where they spent a year and a half, while in vacation periods they traveled through Switzerland and the northern part of Italy, returning by way of the Tyrolean mountains and Bavaria, and visiting the cities of Munich, Augsburg, and Neuenburg, in Bavaria; Milan, and Verona, in Italy; Berne, Zurich, Luzerne and other cities in Switzerland. In 1823 they returned to their old home in Jever, and early in 1824 passed an examination for the ministry. In May, 1826, Mr. Thummel sailed from Amsterdam on the ship Columbus, and after a voyage of seventy days reached Philadelphia on the 19th of August, being then a young man of twenty-four years. He went to New York, and in one year learned to speak the English language, while previously he had mastered German, French, Latin, Hebrew, Spanish and Greek. In 1827 he began missionary work in the Mohawk valley, preaching in German and English. In 1837 he married Mrs. Catherine Davison (nee Lattin), whose family history was briefly related by her in her eighty-fourth year, as follows:

"In the early part of the seventeenth century Thomas Lattin, who was born in England, and was then a lad of twelve years, was apprenticed by his mother as a cabin boy to the captain of a sailing vessel trading between London and Boston. The voyage was a long and rough one and the boy, being sick most of the time during the passage, begged to be left in the city until the return voyage. The captain therefore procured him a situation as errand boy with a grocer. Thomas Lattin, however, never heard of the ship again. In a book in the old home of my Grandfather Lattin I found the following: 'Thomas Lattin, my great-grandfather, was born in 1727 and died aged eighty-two years. Abigail Lake, his wife, born in 1729, died in her sixty-sixth year. William Thomas Lattin, my grandfather, born in 1746, died in 1826. Abigail Hurd, his wife, born in 1770, died in 1826.' My grandfather came from near New Haven, Connecticut, and bought land and settled on the Hartwick patent in Otsego county, New York, in 1789, and there died. The original farm is still in the Lattin family. For the last few years of his life he was quite helpless from rheumatism, and was also blind. He had a family of eight children, all married and long since dead, but all of them leaving children. I have heard the family often lament over the foolishness of some ancestor who for some services rendered during the reign of Queen Anne, was given a tract of land on which Hartford and New Haven now stand, and which he sold for a beaver hat and a brass kettle.

"My father, Thomas Anson, was the oldest son of my grandparents, William and Abiel Lattin, and was married to Lucy Davison, my mother, in Hartwick, New York, in 1809. I was born October 23, 1810. In 1815 my father, with his family, removed to Ohio. We went by land through Pennsylvania, and over the mountains, and were seven weeks on the way. My father settled on a place four miles north of Columbus, Ohio, where he died of fever in 1823, aged thirty-five years. My mother, with four children, returned to her parents. In 1830 she married E. Elmore, by whom she had two

children. She died in 1858, aged sixty-nine years. In 1837 I married the Rev. C. B. Thummel, D. D., then principal of the Clinton (New York) Liberal Institute, a widower with two children—William and Elizabeth. In the fall of 1838 we went to South Carolina, where we remained several years, my husband being engaged in teaching. Here we buried our daughter, Helen, and Anson and Charles were born. In 1845 we came north and bought a farm in Lee county, Illinois, for which we paid six dollars per acre. In 1868 we left the farm and moved to Prairieville, one mile south, where the doctor employed his time in preaching."

He spent his last days in Palmyra township, Lee county, Illinois, where he died May 24, 1881, at a ripe old age. He had been married in New York in 1837 to Catherine Lattin, a native of the Empire state, and unto them were born seven children: Helen C., who was born in 1838 and died in 1840; Anson E., of this review; Charles B., who was born in South Carolina, July 27, 1843, and is living in Russell, Kansas; Mary C., who was born September 23, 1846, and died in the same year; George H., who was born in Illinois, January 31, 1848, formerly a lawyer at Grand Island, Nebraska, and now clerk of the United States court at Omaha, Nebraska; Warren F., who was born December 9, 1850, and is attorney for a leading insurance company of New York city; and Kate L., the wife of Herman Fischer, who was born October 16, 1854, and is now living at Dover, Delaware.

Arriving in Illinois in his boyhood days, Anson E. Thummel pursued his education in the schools of Lee county, where he resided from 1845 until 1897, with the exception of a few years spent in Iowa. On the 1st of March, 1897, he took up his abode in Sterling, where he has since made his home. In the meantime he had loyally defended the Union cause in the Civil war, enlisting in Company D, Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, on the 26th day of August, 1861, under Captain T. L. Pratt and Colonel Kirk, and re-enlisting as a veteran on the 23d of December, 1863. The regiment was sent to the south and assigned to the Second Brigade of the Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, under command of Generals Buell and Rosecrans and later under command of General Sherman, with whom he went on the memorable march to the sea. Mr. Thummel also participated in the battles of Shiloh and Stone River, Atlanta, and all the engagements of the Atlanta campaign. He also took part in the battle of Bentonville, North Carolina, where nine of his company were killed and nine seriously wounded. While on the march to the sea he passed through Lexington, South Carolina, his native city, and was permitted to visit the place of his birth and to call upon his old friends there. In Washington he was one of the victorious army that marched through the city in the grand review when there hung suspended over Pennsylvania avenue a banner bearing the words, "The only debt which our country cannot pay is the one which she owes her soldiers." Coming on to Chicago, Mr. Thummel was there mustered out in July, 1865, after having served with the army for almost four years. During that time he was never wounded nor captured but was always found at his post of duty, faithful in the discharge of every task that devolved upon him, whether it called him to the lonely picket post or stationed him in the midst of the firing line.

Mr. Thummel was married December 24, 1868, in Palmyra township, Lee county, Illinois, to Miss Helen Powers, who was born in that county in 1845, her parents being Hon. Abijah and Amanda (Sprout) Powers. Her education was acquired in the public schools of the neighborhood and at Mount Vernon, Iowa. She died September 13, 1889, at the age of forty-four years, leaving five children. Laura M., the eldest, is the widow of Fred Royer and has two children, Paul and Leo. Bertha A., married Amos Ebersole, of Sterling township, who is now at Oberlin, Ohio, where he is studying for the ministry, and they have three sons, Harold Leon, Raymond Arthur, and Lloyd Kenneth. Blanche E. is the wife of Matthew Foley, a resident of Tacoma, Washington, and they have one daughter—Bertilla. Lloyd A., living on his farm near Prairieville, married Jennie Seidel, and they have two children—LeRoy Franklin and Earle Allen. Mabel K. is the wife of Charles R. Weaver, of Whiteside county, and they have one son, Charles Russell Weaver.

Mr. Thummel was again married December 28, 1893, Miss Emma Seidel becoming his wife. Her parents were John G. and Barbara (Wagner) Seidel. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thummel hold membership in St. John's Lutheran church, in which he is serving as an elder, and their many good traits of character are in harmony with their professions. In his political preference Mr. Thummel is a republican and has served as supervisor of Palmyra township, Lee county. Viewed from any standpoint, Mr. Thummel is a strong man—strong in his honor and his good name, strong in his patriotic citizenship and strong in his business activity and integrity. It was through his well directed labors that he attained the success that now enables him to live retired with a competence sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

J. A. PACE.

J. A. Pace, who carries on general farming and stock-raising, was born in Indiana, November 25, 1855. His parents were Michael and Penelope (McCulloch) Pace, who were natives of Ohio and went to Indiana at an early day. They first found shelter in an Indian wigwam until a cabin could be built and the work of improving a farm begun. The father carried on general agricultural pursuits in that state for a number of years, and there his death occurred. His widow still survives and is now living in Iowa. Their family numbered three sons and a daughter: Jacob, a resident of Iowa; Lafayette, deceased; Malinda, the wife of A. P. Wood, of Altoona, Illinois; and J. A., of this review.

In taking up the history of J. A. Pace, we present to our readers one who has made a favorable impression upon his fellowmen by reason of his diligence and integrity in business affairs. He remained at home until his majority and then starting out in life on his own account was employed as a farm hand for four years. On the expiration of that period he married Miss Lucy J. Lumbard, who was born in the state of New York, June 25, 1840, a



MR. AND MRS. J. A. PACE

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daughter of Abraham and Charlotte (Welch) Lumbard, the former a native of Canada and the latter of the state of New York. Their family numbered four children, of whom Mrs. Pace is the eldest, the others being: Mary E., now the wife of John D. Smith, of Clinton, Iowa; and Sarah M. and Byron, both deceased. It was in the year 1846 that Mr. Lumbard came with his family to Illinois, first settling in Kane county, where he lived for twenty years. He then removed to Whiteside county in 1866 and purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land, which he improved and developed. He died in the year 1873, and was survived by his wife until 1885, when she, too, was called to her final rest.

Following his marriage, Mr. Pace took charge of the farm upon which he now resides. He and his wife are today the owners of one hundred and sixty-seven acres on section 24, Newton township, and the fields are well tilled and the crops carefully cultivated, while in connection with general farming, Mr. Pace also raises stock. He is reliable and trustworthy in business and holds to high ideals in citizenship. His political inclinations at present are with the prohibition party. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 14, at Erie, and both he and his wife are members of the Erie Baptist church. They have a host of friends that is constantly increasing as the circle of their acquaintance broadens and all who know them speak of them in terms of warm regard.

CHARLES O. DEEMING, D. O.

Dr. Charles O. Deeming, osteopathic physician, of Sterling, was born in Lockport, Illinois, September 25, 1872, his parents being William J. and Sarah (Noel) Deeming, the former a native of England, and the latter of Illinois. Their family numbered two children, and the younger son, William, died at the age of three years. The paternal grandfather, James Deeming, was born in England, making his home in Lincolnshire until he came to America, in 1856, settling at Lockport, Illinois. He then lived retired until his death, which occurred in Lockport in 1894, when he was more than seventy years of age. His wife, Mrs. Mary (Ortan) Deeming, was seventy-seven years of age at the time of her demise. Their family numbered four children.

William J. Deeming, the doctor's father, was a shoemaker by trade, and was brought to America by his parents in 1856, settling at Lockport, where he was reared to manhood, being but a youth of eight years at the time of the emigration to the new world. He afterward followed the shoemaker's trade in Lockport, and at one time owned a factory and engaged in the manufacture of shoes. He continued at Lockport until 1881, when he removed to Chicago, where he became manager of a department in the wholesale shoe house of C. M. Henderson & Company. He next went to Jefferson City, Missouri, in charge of a factory for the same firm at that place, but becoming interested in the science of osteopathy, he began studying at Kirksville, Mis-

souri, with the intention of making its practice his life work, and is now located at Brookfield, Missouri, as an osteopathic physician.

Dr. William J. Deeming was married to Miss Sarah Noel, a daughter of Philip Noel, who left home when a young man and went to California in 1849, during the gold fever, after which he was never heard from again. His wife, Mrs. Minnie Noel, died at the very early age of twenty-one years, leaving Mrs. Deeming an only child. The death of Mrs. Deeming occurred in 1893, when she was forty-four years of age, and for his second wife Dr. William J. Deeming chose Miss Ona Bookout, by whom he has one son, Paul. He has always taken an active interest in politics, and has assisted quite largely in campaign work by addressing the public upon the issues of the day, supporting the candidates and principles of the republican party.

Dr. Charles O. Deeming spent the first nine years of his life in Lockport, Illinois, and then went to Chicago, where he attended the public schools until the removal of his parents to Jefferson City, Missouri, where he continued his education as a public school student, being graduated from the high school. He afterward learned the trade of shoe-cutting in a shoe factory there, and when he had mastered the business went upon the road as a commercial traveler, spending three years in that way. While thus engaged he became interested in the science of osteopathy and became a student in the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville. Following his graduation in 1898 he began practice at Rock Falls, Illinois, and has practiced in that place and in Sterling continuously since, having his office in the latter city, however, for the past four years. He is the pioneer osteopath in the county, and one of the oldest in the state. The practical value of this method of treatment is becoming more and more widely recognized, and in consequence Dr. Deeming's patronage is continually increasing. Both professionally and socially he has won popular favor, and is now meeting with success as an osteopathic practitioner.

On the 8th of June, 1899, Dr. Deeming was married to Miss Clara Seaber, a daughter of Senator A. N. and Hannah Seaber, who are represented elsewhere in this volume. They have one son, William Seaber Deeming. Mrs. Deeming was born October 5, 1874, in Leslie county, Kentucky, and attended the public schools in Washington, D. C. Later she was graduated from the public schools at Jefferson City, Missouri, in 1893, after which she finished her education in the State Normal at Kirksville, Missouri. She then took up the study of music and became noted as a pianist. After she was married to Dr. Deeming she came to Illinois to make her home. She has always been very fond of music, and is today a member of the music committee of the Woman's Club of Sterling, to which organization she belongs. She is also connected with the Woman's Relief Corps and the Presbyterian church, and is a member of the Home and Foreign Missionary Societies of the same.

The Doctor is also a member of the Presbyterian church, and he affiliates with Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M.; Rock Falls Lodge, No. 590, I. O. O. F.; and Kirksville Lodge, No. 72, K. P. He is likewise identified with the Sterling Industrial Association, also the Sterling and Rock

Falls Physicians' Club, and the Illinois Osteopathic Association. In politics he is a republican and he lives at No. 610 First avenue, where he owns a good residence. He is eminently practical and thorough in all that he does, and this is manifest in his professional service, whereby he has rendered signal aid to many of his fellow townsmen.

NATHAN L. McKENZIE.

No history of Whiteside county and the old pioneer days would be complete without the name of McKenzie. Dating back to 1845, when De LaFayette McKenzie first located at Prophetstown, this family has been closely connected with the growth and prosperity of the middle west. Nathan L. McKenzie, a farmer residing on section 30, Coloma township, is a native of Whiteside county, born in Portland township, on the 28th of October, 1853. He has been a resident of the county throughout his entire life, with exception of a period of about four years spent in Colorado, from 1870 to 1875, and in Iowa from the spring of 1882 until the fall of 1883.

De LaFayette McKenzie, the father of our subject, was born in Essex county, New York, April 30, 1827, and in early life removed to the western part of that state, whence he came with the family to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1845, casting in his lot with its early settlers. After residing for about eight years in Prophetstown, they removed to Portland township, where Mr. McKenzie continued to make his home upon the farm which he there improved and developed until the spring of 1868, when he became a resident of Coloma township. In 1869 he went to Pike's Peak with Antone Arnett, but returned the same season, feeling that there was little opportunity for him to gain wealth in the mines. While in Colorado at that time he established the first trading post at Golden City, that state, and was closely associated with the early pioneer development. In 1870 he returned to Colorado, accompanied by his family, and was there engaged in the live-stock business until 1875, when he again became a resident of Whiteside county, Illinois, living in Coloma township until his death, which occurred on the 21st of November, 1879. He was a successful farmer and stock-raiser who prospered in his undertakings, and at the time of his death was the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable and productive land. Externally he was connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

On the 2d of February, 1853, in Sterling, De LaFayette McKenzie married Miss Lucia Brewer, who was born December 23, 1835, and was the eldest in a family of ten children. Her parents, Nathan and Louisa (Chapin) Brewer, were natives of Massachusetts, whence they removed westward to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1850, settling in Portland township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie were born four children: Nathan L., Fred E., Julius C., and Wallace L. From 1900 the mother divided her time between her sons, and died at the home of her son, Fred, in Colorado, Texas, November 13, 1905.

Nathan L. McKenzie, whose name introduces this record, acquired his education in the common schools and assumed the responsibilities of life for himself at the age of twenty-one years. He has since been dependent entirely upon his own resources, and whatever success he has achieved is attributable exclusively to his earnest and well directed labor. In 1875 he purchased what was known as the Guy Ray farm, in Portland township, and in 1881 bought a farm in Iowa, but sold out there in 1883 and has since been identified with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county, residing on the old home farm in Coloma township until the spring of 1900, when it was sold and he removed to his present place of residence. As the years have passed, he has carried on general farming, and his labors have brought him well merited success. He has now a small place adjoining in Coloma, Rock Falls township, equipped with many modern accessories and conveniences, that facilitate farm work. He has interests outside of agricultural lines, being connected with banking in Colorado, Texas, while he is likewise the owner of two hundred acres of land in Missouri.

Mr. McKenzie was married at Prophetstown, March 22, 1876, to Miss Minnie Dudley, a daughter of William and Sarah (Young) Dudley, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of England. Mrs. McKenzie was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 27, 1858, and by her marriage has become the mother of three children: Myrtle W., now the wife of Charles D. Cleveland, a resident of Rock Falls; Grace E., the wife of Ed Wakeman, a farmer of Montmorency township; and LaFayette, at home, who was married April 8, 1908, to Bessie M. Kereven.

Fraternally Mr. McKenzie is connected with the Modern Woodmen Camp of Rock Falls, with the Odd Fellows Lodge, No. 508, of Prophetstown, and with the Masonic Lodge at Sterling. He also belongs to the Mystic Workers, No. 52, of Rock Falls, and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party, but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, in which he is meeting with well merited success.

HIRAM L. EWING.

Hiram L. Ewing, a retired farmer of Lyndon, was born at Ewington, Gallia county, Ohio, December 22, 1846. That town was named in honor of his grandfather, William Ewing, who was a native of Greenbriar county, Virginia, and a representative of an old Virginian family of Irish descent. He served as soldier of the war of 1812. Since 1892 an annual reunion of the Ewing family has been held at the old town of Ewington, Ohio.

James R. Ewing, father of Hiram L. Ewing, and one of a family of three sons and three daughters, was born in Ohio and died in Alabama at the advanced age of eighty years. He was engaged in the iron business until the war, when he enlisted as a member of the Eleventh Ohio Battery and served for three years and three months, returning home with health impaired by reason

of the exposure and hardships of camp life. He had two brothers who were soldiers of the Union army. He married Eliza J. McMillan, who was a native of Virginia and of Scotch lineage. She had six brothers who were in the Civil war at one time and her father did guard duty at home. The death of Mrs. Ewing also occurred in Alabama at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Louisa I. Brown, now deceased, who was the elder of two children.

Hiram L. Ewing resided in Ohio with his parents through the period of his boyhood and youth and in 1866, when in his twentieth year, came to Whiteside county, where he has since made his home. Starting out in life on his own account, he had no capital and worked by the month as a farm hand for about five years, but he possessed laudable ambition to engage in business which would more directly benefit himself and therefore cultivated a rented farm for five years. On the expiration of that period he began operating the farm of one hundred and sixty acres which his wife had received from her father. For many years he devoted his time and energies to its improvement and cultivation and year by year gathered good crops, for which he found a ready sale on the market. Thus as time passed by, he prospered. At length they sold the farm and purchased property in Lyndon, where they have made their home since 1899. To some extent Mr. Ewing has worked at the carpenter's trade but is now practically retired.

It was in 1868 that Hiram L. Ewing was united in marriage to Miss Esther P. Thompson, who was born in Fenton township, this county, January 16, 1851, and has always lived in this locality. Her parents were R. M. and Matilda S. (Dodge) Thompson, natives of Ohio. The father was born in Meigs county and was brought to this county by his parents when sixteen years of age, while Mrs. Thompson came with her father, John Dodge, who opened the first court in Whiteside county. He was one of the original settlers in Mount Pleasant township and a soldier of the Black Hawk war, aiding in the reclamation of this district from the dominion of the red race. He was prominently and closely associated with the early history of this part of the state and was shot at Galena while sitting on his horse there, having gone to that place to enter a claim at the land office. R. M. Thompson, the father of Mrs. Ewing, was a successful and prominent farmer of Fenton township, who at one time owned twenty-three hundred acres of land. His political allegiance was given to the republican party for many years and later he became a greenback. He served for a considerable period as supervisor of his township and was always loyal to the best interests of the community. His family numbered six sons and four daughters, of whom two died in childhood, while eight reached adult age, were married and had families. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ewing has been blessed with nine children: Anna, the wife of William A. Penn, of Morrison; Arthur, who is living in Hillsdale, Illinois; Ralph, a resident of Lyndon; Howard, of Colorado; Riley, who died at the age of thirteen months; Earl, a farmer, whose home is in the outskirts of the village of Lyndon; Edith, Ruth and Leighla, all under the parental roof.

Mr. Ewing exercises his right of franchise in support of the republican party and is one of its recognized leaders in this part of the state. He has

done valued and effective service on the county central committee for twelve years, has been commissioner of highways, township clerk for two terms, school officer for twenty years and drainage commissioner of the Erie and Fenton district No. 1 for ten years, acting in that office during the legal fights. In all of his official service he has been actuated by a devotion to public good that is above question and his worth as a man and as a citizen is widely acknowledged. He belongs to Ewing Fenton Camp of Modern Woodmen, and both he and his wife are devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their circle of friends is extensive and their pleasant home is justly celebrated for its cordial hospitality.

MATT RAY THOMPSON.

Matt Ray Thompson was born September 19, 1871, on the old homestead farm of the family which is yet his place of residence. For sixty-seven years the family has resided within the borders of Whiteside county. Its members have been known as prominent pioneer settlers who aided largely in transforming this region from a wild, unsettled district into one giving every evidence of modern civilization. With the agricultural development they have been closely associated and at all times have stood for progressive citizenship. Recognizing individual responsibility and obligation they have borne their part in supporting those interests which have brought about not only the material, but also the intellectual and moral progress of Whiteside county. Extended mention of the parents is made on another page of this work in connection with the history of John L. Thompson. Their children were ten in number, of whom Matt Ray Thompson is the ninth in order of birth. The record is as follows: Esther Philinda is now the wife of H. L. Ewing, of Lyndon. John L. is a prominent farmer of Fenton township, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. James A., born March 13, 1858, died August 17, 1859. Albert L., whose history is given in this volume, is also a representative farmer of Fenton township. Clara L. is the wife of M. I. Fadden, of Lyndon. Frank E., born June 8, 1863, died December 28, 1863. Rhoda M. is the wife of Frank Hodges, of Lyndon. Eva Leona is the wife of John Potter, of Morrison, and Henry Clay resides at Rice Lake, Wisconsin.

Matt R. Thompson spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and resided upon the old homestead farm until 1888, when the family removed to Lyndon township, where they lived for ten years. On the expiration of that decade they returned to the old homestead, whereon our subject now resides. He supplemented his early education by two years' study in the high school at Lyndon and was also a pupil in the State Normal School at Normal, Illinois, for two years, and for two years in Dixon College, where he pursued a business course, which he completed by graduation and was also graduated in the art of penmanship. Although his father was in very comfortable circumstances he believed that his children should

labor and learn the value of industry and perseverance. Accordingly starting out in life on his own account, Matt R. Thompson worked by the month as a farm hand in Fenton township for two years. He then married and took up his abode upon a rented farm in Mount Pleasant township, where he resided for five years. On the expiration of that period he returned to the old home place and about 1903 purchased two hundred and seven acres of this property, which lies on sections 25, 26, 35 and 36, Fenton township, the residence standing on section 35. This farm is beautifully located on the borders of the Rock river and was the original homestead of his father, Reuben M. Thompson. The place is now largely conducted as a stock farm, Mr. Thompson making a specialty of the raising of shorthorn Durham cattle, having about eighty head of full-blooded registered and high grade stock with Dandy Boy, No. 265698 at the head of the herd. He has been engaged in raising Durhams for ten years and he also raises Norman horses of high grade, having fourteen head upon his place at the present time, together with about fifty head of Poland China hogs. His stock is all valuable and has been successfully exhibited at the county fairs, where he has carried off various premiums. He likewise is celebrated for the White Wyandotte chickens which he raises.

On the 5th of January, 1898, Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Martha Elizabeth Duncan, who was born in Erie, February 2, 1875, a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Wiggins) Duncan, the former born in Erie, Pennsylvania, and the latter in Marietta, Ohio. They are now residents of Erie. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have been born three children: Matilda Elizabeth, June 2, 1899; Robert Ray, August 27, 1902; and Harold Leon, January 5, 1908.

Mr. Thompson is independent in politics, supporting men and measures rather than party. He has served as school director since living upon his present farm and the cause of education finds in him a faithful friend. He belongs to Modern Woodmen Camp at Erie, and like the other members of the family, is highly respected because his life interests are in conformity with those principles which work for honorable manhood and upright character. He is a man of strong individuality, of laudable ambition and firm purpose and through his own efforts is gradually working his way upward in the business world, having already gained creditable success.

WILLIAM H. ALLEN.

William H. Allen, a well known attorney practicing at Erie, was born in New Hampshire, November 12, 1839, a son of Solomon V. R. and Sarah (Richardson) Allen, the former a native of New York and the latter of Massachusetts. They removed westward to Illinois in 1856, locating at Erie, Whiteside county, where the father passed away on the 21st of September, 1886, having long survived his wife, whose demise occurred June 9, 1862. Their family numbered three children: William H., of this review; Samuel R., of Little Rock, Arkansas; and Sarah, who resides in Erie.

Having acquired a good literary education, William H. Allen began teaching school when seventeen years of age, following that profession for eight years. In the meantime, however, he studied law and in the year 1866 was admitted to the bar at Ottawa, Illinois. Locating for practice at Erie, he has since followed his chosen calling here and, though he has nearly reached the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, is still actively connected with a profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community, and one which has long been considered as conserving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights. Locating here forty-five years ago, Mr. Allen soon gained favorable recognition as a lawyer of wide learning and research and his clientage, continually increasing, has long since become an extensive and profitable one.

In November, 1864, Mr. Allen was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Orr, whose birth occurred in Hastings county, Ontario, Canada, and who came to Illinois at an early day, being one of a family of ten children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Allen have also been born ten children, namely: William C., of Moline, Illinois; Samuel R., who resides in Mexico; Sarah R., at home; Solomon V. R., living in Mercer county, Illinois; Harry B., of Chicago; Katherine B. and John Orr, at home; and three who are deceased.

Mr. Allen was affiliated with the republican party for several years and was a member of the legislature for three sessions, including two regular sessions and one special session. He is now, however, a staunch friend and admirer of W. J. Bryan and a firm believer in the principles advocated by the Nebraska statesman. Fraternally he is connected with Erie Lodge, No. 365, A. F. & A. M., at Erie, and with the commandery at Sterling, Illinois. Both he and his wife are widely and favorably known throughout the county in which they have made their home for so many years, the circle of their friends being almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

IRWIN G. WILKINSON.

Among the representatives of farming interests in Hume township who have met with well merited prosperity through untiring diligence and unfaltering perseverance is numbered Irwin G. Wilkinson, who resides on section 18, where he owns two hundred and sixty acres of land. For a long period he was closely associated with farming interests here, but now leaves the active work of his farm to his son-in-law, to whom he has rented it.

Mr. Wilkinson is a native of Oneida county, New York, born May 8, 1859. His parents were Andrew and Sarah E. (House) Wilkinson. The father was born in Oneida county, New York, January 3, 1836, and died in Prophetstown, Illinois, in 1890. In 1860, when a young man of twenty-four years, he came to the west to find a wider field of business opportunity and located in Prophetstown township, Whiteside county. The following autumn his father, mother and other members of the family joined him here. They



IRWIN G. WILKINSON

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soon began to buy land in this section and at one time owned two thousand and sixteen acres of fine land in the Rock river bottoms. Shortly after their arrival they invested in forty acres in Prophetstown, afterwards bought one hundred and twenty acres in Tampico township, subsequently invested in eight hundred and eighty-nine acres in Hume township, and again bought five hundred and ninety-seven acres in Hume township. They accumulated all this before selling any of it, and a number of years later they bought five hundred and fifty-six acres in Lyndon township. They were extensively engaged in raising and feeding stock, making their own shipments, and the Wilkinson name became synonymous in this county with extensive and prosperous farming and stock-raising interests.

The father was first married on the 1st of January, 1857, to Miss Sarah E. House, a daughter of Conrad and Sally House. She was born in Oneida county, New York, December 2, 1837, and died in Tampico township, Whiteside county, February 23, 1886. They became the parents of two children: Irwin G.; and Eva J., the wife of Henry H. Clark, of Hume township. After losing his first wife, Andrew Wilkinson was married on the 11th of March, 1879, his second union being with Miss Mary M. Quigley, who was born in Lancaster county, September 10, 1836, and is still living in Prophetstown. They resided on a farm for about four years after their marriage, in 1883, removing to Prophetstown, where the death of Andrew Wilkinson occurred in 1890. He was a Mason, thoroughly in sympathy with the craft and its work, and he also belonged to the Modern Woodman Camp.

Irwin G. Wilkinson acquired a common-school education in the district schools near his father's home. He was only about a year old when brought to this county, and there were still various evidences of pioneer life to be found here when the family arrived in 1860. As his years and strength increased he assisted more and more largely in carrying on the work of the farm and remained with his father until 1883, when he began farming on his own account on the place on which he now resides. At one time he owned here four hundred acres of rich and productive land, but has since sold a portion of it, and the farm on section 18, Hume township, now comprises two hundred and sixty acres, which he has rented to his son-in-law. Mr. Wilkinson has always raised stock, handling Durham cattle, Poland China hogs and Norman horses, and both branches of his business have proven profitable, and now make possible the rest which he is enjoying from further active labor.

On the 8th of January, 1880, Mr. Wilkinson was married to Miss Martha Hurstwife, who was born in England, January 8, 1863, the only child of William and Elizabeth (Johnson) Hurstwife. Her father was born January 2, 1841. They came to the United States in 1871, and, making their way into the interior of the country, settled in Hume township, Whiteside county, where the father worked by the month. He afterwards rented land and engaged in farming on his own account, and for the past six years he and his wife have occupied a part of the house with Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two children: Bessie, now the wife of George P. Rigler, by whom she has one son, George; and Ralph, who is

living in Nebraska. When the little grandson was born, he had the distinction of having a grandmother, a great-grandmother and a great-great-grandmother living, making five generations, and a picture was taken of all of them, and there was also a grandfather and a great-grandfather living.

Mr. Wilkinson has been somewhat prominent and influential in public affairs, and an appreciation of his worth on the part of his fellow townsmen has been manifest in his selection for various public offices of honor and trust. He was pathmaster for three years, was road commissioner for three years and school director for six years. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. He belongs to the Mystic Workers of the World, is a long standing member of Prophetstown Camp, M. W. A., and Mrs. Wilkinson is a member of the Mystic Workers, the Royal Neighbors and the Congregational church. A resident of this county for almost a half century makes him thoroughly familiar with its history, and the activity which he has always displayed in business affairs has gained him recognition as a leading agriculturist of Hume township.

ELI C. HESS.

The prosperity of any community, town or city depends upon its commercial activity, its industrial interests and its trade relations and therefore among the promoters of a town are those who stand at the head of its business enterprises. Among this class is numbered Eli C. Hess, a contractor and builder of Sterling, and the number and importance of the contracts which have been awarded him make him one of the substantial residents of the city. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, August 11, 1849, his parents being Michael R. and Mary Magdalena (Eschelman) Hess, natives of Pennsylvania.

The family comes of German ancestry in the paternal line, although representatives of the name came to America at an early day, the grandfather of our subject being a native of Pennsylvania, where he followed farming up to the time of his death. He married a Miss Rathphan, who long survived him and lived to be about ninety years of age. Their son, Michael R. Hess, was reared in the Keystone state and became a shoemaker of Lancaster county, while later he engaged in business in that state as a stone mason. He wedded Mary Magdalena Eschelman, a daughter of Jacob and Lutz Eschelman. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and a carpenter by trade. He died in Lancaster county well advanced in years. After the death of his first wife he was married twice. By his first union he had six children and by each of the other marriages had several children, making twenty-one in all. In the year 1868 Michael R. Hess brought his family to Whiteside county, Illinois, and bought a farm of forty acres in Jordan township, which he improved. He died when about seventy-eight years of age and his wife passed away two years before at the age of seventy-four. He was a Mennonite in religious faith, while she was connected with the

Dunkard church. They had a family of nine sons and three daughters, of whom ten are now living: Mary, the wife of Ripley Stauffer, of Penrose, Illinois; Zacharias and Jeremiah, twins, both residing in Whiteside county; Jacob, who makes his home in Kansas; Eli C., of this review; Emanuel; Emeline, the wife of Henry Mellinger; Ephraim; and Susan, the wife of Jacob Truth, all of Whiteside county; and Theodore, living in Elgin, Illinois.

Eli C. Hess was reared in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, upon the home farm and acquired his education there. He came to Illinois in 1868 when a young man of nineteen years and worked by the month as a farm hand for a year. He was afterward employed as a stone-mason for two years and then took up the carpenter's trade, which he has since followed. He began doing contract work about 1879 and has since built many of the substantial residences and business houses of Sterling and the surrounding country. He also erected the township high school and a number of the factories of Sterling and of Rock Falls. His labors have been of a character to insure him a continuance of the liberal patronage accorded him and his fidelity to the terms of a contract has gained him the unqualified trust of his fellowmen.

Mr. Hess was married to Miss Clara Huber, a daughter of Jessiah and Catherine (Leister) Huber. They have four children: Frederick Richard, a millwright living near Whiting, Indiana, married Nellie Frey. Nora May died at the age of three years. Arthur Herbert, a carpenter of Rock Falls, wedded Nettie Bolton and they have one son, Leo. Earl LeRoy completes the family. The eldest son served as a soldier in the Spanish-American war.

Mr. Hess exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party. He has filled the office of school director, of highway commissioner and of collector of Jordan and Palmyra townships. During the past ten years he has lived in Sterling, occupying a beautiful home which he built in 1897. He is interested in all that pertains to the general welfare and has earned for himself an enviable reputation as a careful man of business, who in his dealings is known for his prompt and honorable methods.

JOHN DAIL.

Although born across the water, John Dail is thoroughly American in spirit and interests, being closely identified with the agricultural development and progress of Whiteside county, where he owns a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Portland township, and has an additional eighty acre tract, located in Newton township. Mr. Dail was born in Ireland, December 15, 1845, his parents being Nathaniel and Jane (McNeil) Dail. The parents emigrated to the United States from their native country in 1851. Landing at New Orleans, they made their way to St. Louis, where the mother was taken ill and her death resulted. The father came with his family to Whiteside county and purchased eighty acres of land on section 15, Portland

township, this being wild prairie when it came into his possession. The father there took up the work of developing new land and in due course of time placed his fields under a high state of cultivation, being identified with agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days, his death occurring on that farm February 24, 1873, when he had reached the age of sixty-six years. His family numbered three sons, of whom our subject is the youngest, the others being Nathaniel and Robert, both of whom are residents of Portland township.

John Dail was a little lad of six years at the time of the emigration of the family to the new world. As above stated, the mother died in St. Louis, ere the family had reached their destination and the son then went to live with his grandparents, by whom he was reared to the age of thirteen years. He then started out in life on his own account by working as a farm hand by the month, being thus employed for several years. He carefully saved his earnings, so that in 1870 he was possessed of a sum sufficient to justify his purchase of land and became the owner of forty acres in Portland township, this constituting a portion of his present farm property. He has, however, added to his original purchase and now his place embraces one hundred and sixty acres. He has placed all of the improvements which are here seen, including a good residence, good barns and outbuildings and now has a valuable farm. He is engaged in general agricultural pursuits, raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, and his products find a ready sale on the market. In addition to his home property he also owns eighty acres of land in Newton township and this, too, is a good tract of land. The success which is crowning his efforts is well merited for it has come to him as the reward of his diligence and well directed efforts.

Mr. Dail was married October 2, 1879, the lady of his choice being Miss Florence Brown, who was born in Erie township, Whiteside county, January 13, 1861, a daughter of Alexander and Eliza (Hamilton) Brown, the former a native of Ashtabula county, Ohio, while the latter was born in Pennsylvania. The parents located in Whiteside county at an early day but only remained here for a few years, returning to the Buckeye state, where the father died. The mother, however, is still living in Ashtabula county. Their family numbered two sons and two daughters, of whom Mrs. Dail is the eldest, the others being Mrs. Etta Kellogg, George and William Brown, all of whom reside in Ohio.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Dail has been blessed with four children: Clarence, who wedded Ella Jurgenson, and makes his home in Detroit, Michigan; Dubert, at home; Jessie, who makes her home in Prophetstown; and Ellis, at home.

Mr. Dail gives his political support to the republican party, believing firmly in the principles of its platform. He has served as road commissioner and as school director, discharging his duties in these offices in prompt and capable manner. Fraternally he is connected with Spring Hill Camp, No. 225, M. W. A. Mr. Dail may truly be called a self-made man, for from the early age of thirteen years he has made his own way in the world, starting out in the humble capacity of a farm hand. As the years have

passed by, however, he has allowed no obstacles to brook his path but has worked his way on persistently and energetically until he is today the owner of two valuable farms, his landed possessions aggregating two hundred and forty acres, and thus he is justly classed with the representative and substantial agriculturists of this section of the state.

A. G. VAN PETTEN.

Among the enterprising, energetic and prosperous business men of Whiteside county is numbered he whose name heads this review. Various interests claim his time and attention and his capable management is indicated by their successful control. He possesses a stalwart determination that enables him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes and in matters of business his judgment is sound and reliable.

Mr. Van Petten is a native of the state of New York, born December 7, 1855. The lineage and name of the Van Pettens as they appear in Professor Pearsons' work entitled "The genealogies of the first settlers of Schenectady" and in "Broadhead's Documentary History of New York" and on the rolls of the New York militia in the American Revolution, are as follows: The progenitor of them all was Claas Frederickse Van Petten, the son of Frederick Van Petten. He was born in Holland, May 30, 1641, and died October 3, 1728. He emigrated to Schenectady, New York, in 1664. He married Aefie Bradt, a daughter of Arentse Bradt and his wife, Catilina De Vos. Arentse Bradt emigrated from Holland to Albany, whence he went to Schenectady. He was killed in the massacre of 1690.

Claas Van Petten was long a member of the Dutch Reformed church of Albany, and his name appears among the contributors to the salary of Dominy Duillius. He was the ancestor of all the Van Pettens and those of similar names in America but according to old documents and records, he spelled his name as does the subject of this review.

Among his children, Claas Van Petten, born April 6, 1690, was the next in line of direct descent to our subject. He married Rebecca Groat, daughter of Simon Groat, of a very respectable family, which was represented by over thirty of the patriots of the American Revolution. The names of Claas Van Petten and those of his brothers, Arent and Andries, are on a list of freeholders of Albany county.

Among the children of Claas Van Petten the second was Nicholas, who was born December 16, 1716. He was married to Sarah Clement, of excellent family, which was largely represented in the American Revolution and is still well represented in ancestral and patriotic societies. Though over sixty years of age, with his three brothers, five sons and many other relatives, he participated in the Revolutionary war at Saratoga, Stony Point and Yorktown.

The parents of A. C. Van Petten of this review were John and Hannah (Bourne) Van Petten, natives of New York and Illinois respectively. In

the early '50s the father removed westward to Illinois, where he was married. His wife died in 1863 and, long surviving her, Mr. Van Petten passed away in 1889. Their family numbered five children.

A. G. Van Petten was reared in this state and received his education at the Elmwood schools. From the age of sixteen years he has been dependent upon his own resources and his life may be summed up in the altogether expressive, although somewhat hackneyed term, of a self-made man. When twenty-five years of age Mr. Van Petten was married to Miss Ida M. Austin, who was born in Peoria county, Illinois.

In 1888 Mr. Van Petten removed to western Kansas, where he engaged in the real-estate business for a time. He next entered the employ of the Union Pacific Railway as right-of-way agent and continued with that corporation for several years, residing most of the time at Ogden, Utah, and Portland, Oregon. In 1895 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, where he purchased five hundred and twenty acres of land in Montmorency and Harmon townships. Gradually he has extended the scope of his activities until his labors reach out into many lines. At present he is a member of the firm of Van Petten & Hess, conducting a general mercantile store in the village of Van Petten, which was named in his honor, and he is also interested in and manager of an elevator at that place. While on the farm he made a specialty of breeding and raising full blooded shorthorn cattle, also horses.

In politics Mr. Van Petten is a staunch republican, in thorough sympathy with the principles and policy of the party and a warm admirer of its present leader. He is a charter member of the Ancient Order of Workmen at Colby, Kansas, and he and his wife are supporters of the Congregational church. He has never allowed difficulties or obstacles to bar his path if they could be overcome by unfaltering and honorable effort. He bears an unsullied reputation for business integrity and his life in its unwearied diligence may well serve as an example to others.

R. B. DUNCAN.

R. B. Duncan owns and cultivates a farm of ninety-two acres in Erie township, largely devoting his time and attention to stock-raising and always keeping on hand good grades of stock. His life record began in Erie county, Pennsylvania, October 20, 1849, his parents being Alexander and Elizabeth (Chambers) Duncan, natives of Pennsylvania and of England, respectively. The year 1853 witnessed their removal westward to Illinois, at which time they located in Henry county upon a tract of rented land. Subsequently they removed to Whiteside county and Mr. Duncan purchased land, upon which he made his home until his death, converting the farm into a valuable property. He passed away in September, 1886, while his wife survived him for more than twelve years and died on the 4th of November, 1898, Mr. Duncan was married twice. By the first union he had two children: Nancy,



R. B. DUNCAN

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now the widow of Milton Segar, a resident of Erie, Illinois; and Elizabeth, the wife of Alfred Clayton, whose home is in Kansas. By his second marriage Alexander Duncan became the father of five children: R. B.; Ella, the deceased wife of Burton Martin; Eva, the wife of David Lisby, a resident of Campbell county, Illinois; Mary, deceased; and Sarah, the wife of John Clayton, who is living in Kankakee county, Illinois.

R. B. Duncan, reared upon the home farm, early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist as he carried on the work of tilling the soil and producing rich and profitable crops. His education was acquired through the medium of the public schools and when not busy with his text-books he continued to assist his father in carrying on the home farm until he attained his majority. He then rented a farm for a few years and later purchased the homestead place of fifty-two acres on sections 7 and 8, to which he afterward added by the purchase of an additional tract of forty acres on section 13, Erie township. He has improved his land, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation as he has brought forth good crops of corn, wheat and other cereals. He also raises stock successfully and in his farm work displays intelligent and discriminating management.

In 1875 Mr. Duncan was married to Miss Elizabeth Wiggins, who was born in Ohio in 1847, a daughter of Elijah and Julia (Stark) Wiggins, who were natives of the state of New York. The mother died in Ohio and the father passed away in Erie, Illinois. Their family numbered four children: Martha E., the wife of Ray Thompson, of Fenton township; Delbert A., a graduate of the Erie high school; Mabel D., deceased; and Mrs. Duncan.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Duncan hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and are consistent Christian people. Politically he is a republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party, yet never seeking office as a reward for party fealty. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Erie and also to the Fraternal Tribune, of Rock Island. He was brought to Illinois when a little lad of three years and has since lived in this state, being for many years a factor in the agricultural life of Whiteside county. He belongs to that class of men who owe their success entirely to their own efforts, for he had no assistance from family or influential friends at the outset of his business career. He has worked with determination and energy to overcome all of the difficulties and obstacles in his path, and as the years have gone by has gained a fair measure of prosperity, numbering him among the leading farmers of his community.

MILLARD F. HILL.

Millard F. Hill was born September 8, 1855, in Prophetstown township and within its borders still makes his home, identified with its farming interests. He is a son of E. B. and Jane (Underhill) Hill, who were natives of Vermont and came to Whiteside county at an early day. The father made the journey here with his parents in 1835, when all this district of the state

was largely a wild, unbroken region, showing many evidences of Indian occupancy but few proofs of the settlement by the white race. E. B. Hill located in Prophetstown and resided in a log cabin for several years, sharing in all the hardships and privations of pioneer life and aiding in reclaiming the wild land for the uses of civilization. Unto him and his wife were born C. E., who is now a resident of Hastings, Nebraska; Willard F., of this review; W. S., whose home is in Whiteside county; Ella, the wife of D. L. Barlows, of Nebraska; C. G. and P. H., who are living in this county; Ena, the wife of William Lancaster; and Lillian Irene, the wife of Alford Allen, of Lyndon.

As boy and youth Millard F. Hill remained upon his father's farm, working in the fields as his age and strength increased and thus gaining intimate and valuable knowledge concerning farm work in all of its departments. Later he bought a farm and is now the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of rich and productive land on section 18, Prophetstown township. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathers rich harvests.

On the 3d of December, 1879, Mr. Hill was married to Miss Sarah Lancaster, who was born in 1860 in this county. Her father is now deceased but her mother is still living. Their family numbered six children and unto Mr. and Mrs. Hill have been born three children: Lavinna V., the wife of William Lamont, of this county; Winifred, at home; and Charles E., deceased. The parents are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, contribute generously to its support and are interested in its work. Mr. Hill is a republican in political views and has continuously supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is the present assessor of his township and whether in office or out of it is loyal to the best interests of the community. In addition to his farming interests he is connected with the Farmers Telephone Company as its president, and in installing the telephone system has done a work of much local value. No longer is the farmer isolated by distance from his fellows, for telephone lines bring him into instant communication with friends and neighbors, and the rural mail delivery brings him into close contact with others more remote. In this and other particulars the Hill farm is well supplied with modern conveniences and accessories and Mr. Hill stands as one of the most progressive agriculturists of the community.

WESLEY J. FARRELL.

Wesley J. Farrell, successfully and extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising in Portland township, was born in Canada on the 1st of April, 1868, his parents being William and Sarah (Guthrie) Farrell, both natives of Ireland, the former born in 1833 and the latter in 1834. They were married on the Emerald Isle and on the 4th of June, 1854, emigrated to the new world, locating in Canada. There Mr. Farrell bought timber land, cleared it and then sold it, and as soon as one tract had been cleared of the timber he bought

another, moving further into the interior each time. He thus aided in reclaiming a wild region for the purposes of civilization and was an important factor in the development of a sparsely populated and unsettled district. In 1866 he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, locating on section 36, Portland township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land that was slightly improved. As time passed, by reason of his careful management and sound business judgment, he was enabled to gradually add to his landed possessions until at one time he owned about eight hundred acres. In 1890 he removed to Prophetstown, where he remained for three years, returning to his farm on the expiration of that period. In 1895, however, he once more took up his abode in Prophetstown, where he has since resided, spending the evening of his days in well earned rest. His wife passed away there on the 4th of June, 1906. Their family numbered five children, as follows: Mrs. Margaret Langdon, of Prophetstown; Mrs. Elizabeth Coon, who resides in Golden City, Missouri; James J., of Portland township; Wesley J., of this review; and Lizzie, who died in infancy.

Wesley J. Farrell acquired his early education in the common schools and had to get up at three o'clock in the morning in order to complete, before the opening school-hour, the various tasks that were assigned him in connection with the operation of the home farm. He is now sending his children to the same school which he himself attended. When he had attained his majority he began farming on his own account on his father's land and in 1894 purchased one hundred and fifty-seven acres near the old homestead, having added many modern improvements and brought the place under a high state of cultivation. In 1905 he bought one hundred and thirty-one acres more, so that he now owns two hundred and eighty-eight acres of rich and productive land, making him one of the representative and prosperous agriculturists of his community. In addition to the work of general farming he is also extensively engaged in stock-raising, having now seventy head of cattle and two hundred hogs, this branch of his business also bringing to him a gratifying financial return.

On the 1st of January, 1895, Mr. Farrell was united in marriage to Miss Ella M. Crosier, who was born in Portland township and after completing her education taught school there for a period of six years, from 1888 until 1894. Unto them have been born six children: Clarence, Raymond, Ethel, Ralph, Glen and Mildred, all of whom are at home.

Anderson S. Crosier, the father of Mrs. Farrell, was born in Washington county, New York, and in 1839 became a resident of Whiteside county, Illinois, settling on a farm of one hundred and ninety-two acres in Portland township, the patent for which was signed by President James K. Polk. On the 23d of April, 1855, he married Miss Elizabeth A. Steele, a native of Nova Scotia. She was only a year old when brought to Whiteside county by her parents, George W. and Mary A. Steele, who located in Erie. Mr. Crosier died in 1872, while in Nebraska on a prospecting trip, and was long survived by his wife, who remained on the farm in Portland township until her death, which occurred September 21, 1905, when she was sixty-eight years of age. The old homestead is still in possession of the heirs and is now occupied by

George W. Crosier. In the family were the following children: Eugene A., of Watertown, Illinois; Hattie A. and Fred A., both of Geneseo; Ella M., now Mrs. Farrell; George W., who was married February 14, 1900, to Miss Maude A. Young; Delbert A., who died in 1878; and Anderson S., who died May 17, 1871.

In his political views Mr. Farrell is a staunch advocate of the republican party, while his religious faith is indicated by his affiliation with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is also a member. Having resided in this county throughout almost his entire life, he is well known here and has gained the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact, for he has ever been actuated by high and honorable principles in every relation.

CLIFFORD C. REYNOLDS.

Clifford C. Reynolds, who owns and operates two hundred and forty acres of fine farming land on section 26, Prophetstown township, was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, March 5, 1872, a son of Gardner and Elizabeth (Stakes) Reynolds. The father was born in Sheldon, Erie county, New York, in 1837, and served his country as a soldier in the Civil war, being a member of Company A, Sixty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry from 1861 to 1864. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1906, he owned seven hundred and twenty-seven acres of land in Whiteside county, being widely recognized as one of the extensive and representative agriculturists of this part of the state. The mother of our subject, among the first white children born in this county, was one of a family of eight children, and her demise occurred in 1902. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Reynolds were born three children: Emogene, who resides in Prophetstown; Clifford C., of this review; and Leon S., of Prophetstown township.

In the schools of his native county Clifford C. Reynolds acquired his education and when he had attained the age of twenty-one years left the parental roof and began farming on a part of his father's land. He now owns two hundred and forty acres on section 26, Prophetstown township, and has met with a gratifying and well merited measure of success in the conduct of his farming interests. For several years he has been breeding and raising Hereford cattle and is well known as a prominent and prosperous agriculturist and stock-raiser of the county.

On the 25th of December, 1895, Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Miss Aggie G. Allen, who was born in Michigan, August 25, 1872, a daughter of William and Jane (Ballard) Allen, the former a native of Canada, and the latter of Whiteside county. Mrs. Reynolds was one of two children, and by her marriage has also become the mother of two children: Clyde, whose birth occurred October 25, 1900; and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Reynolds gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is at present serving as a school director. Fraternally he is connected with Prophetstown Lodge, No. 16, M. W. A., at Prophetstown, while both he and



MR. AND MRS. C. C. REYNOLDS

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his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Although still a young man, he has met with a large degree of prosperity in his business interests, and in the county where his entire life has been passed is widely known as a representative and enterprising business man and upright citizen, as well as a man of many friends.

GEORGE E. SAWYER.

George E. Sawyer, a retired agriculturist residing in Erie, was born in Rutland county, Vermont, January 7, 1849, a son of Sherwood and Jane Ann (Cabee) Sawyer, also natives of Vermont, the former born in 1825 and the latter in 1829. They were married in the year 1845 and passed away in the Green Mountain state, the death of Sherwood Sawyer occurring in 1880, while his wife survived until 1905. Their family numbered seven children, namely: John W., of Vermont; George E., of this review; Roscoe O., of Massachusetts; Leman, deceased; Alverdo, also of Massachusetts; Charles R., who resides in Nebraska; and Franklin E.

George E. Sawyer acquired a common-school education and remained in the state of his nativity until he came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1867, being at that time seventeen years of age. He was first employed as a farm hand for three years and then engaged in the operation of a rented farm for one year, after which he returned to Vermont. After a year spent in that state he again came to Whiteside county, working at farm labor by the month for one year, at the end of which time he once more rented a farm and engaged in its cultivation for six years. On the expiration of that period he had, through the exercise of industry and economy, gained a sum sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm of his own, which he sold, however, after residing on it for a year. His next purchase of land made him the owner of two hundred and forty acres, to which he afterward added one hundred and eighty-one acres more, so that his total holdings aggregated four hundred and twenty-one acres of productive and valuable land. He made his home on the farm for fifteen years and in addition to the work of the fields was also quite extensively engaged in the breeding and raising of stock. In the year 1896 he retired from active business life, sold his land and removed to Erie, where he still makes his home, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. He had no pecuniary assistance at the outset of his career, so that the success which he has gained is attributable entirely to his own well directed diligence and perseverance. He is now the owner of seven fine residence properties in the village of Erie and is widely recognized as one of the prominent and enterprising residents of the community.

On the 2d of September, 1872, Mr. Sawyer was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Weed, who was born in Illinois in 1854 and was a daughter of Daniel and Lydia A. (Sands) Weed. The father is now deceased but the mother makes her home with Mr. Sawyer. She had a family of three children, and unto our subject and his wife have been born eight children, as follows:

Paul E., of Beardstown, Illinois; Ella J., deceased; Claude D., at home; Lois L., a graduate of the Erie high school and now the wife of Wallace Chapman, of Sterling, Illinois; Mary A., the wife of Edward Wilson, of Beardstown; Glenn S. and Earl H., twins, both of whom reside in Erie; and Hazel B., at home. There are also ten grandchildren, one of whom is named George E. Sawyer in honor of his grandfather.

Mr. Sawyer gives his political allegiance to the democracy and has served as justice of the peace and as school director for several years, his official duties being discharged in a prompt and capable manner. Fraternally he is connected with Erie Camp, No. 14, M. W. A., while both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are well and favorably known by reason of the long period of their residence in this county, as well as for their excellent traits of heart and mind and devotion to the general welfare.

W. P. UTLEY.

W. P. Utley, residing on West Third street in Sterling, is one of Whiteside county's native sons, his birth having occurred at Como on the 25th of December, 1857. His parents were Dr. Henry and Caroline S. (Butler) Utley, natives of Oneida county, New York. The paternal grandfather, Henry Utley, was born in Rhode Island but for many years lived at Westernville, Oneida county, New York. In early life he was a tanner and saddler and later engaged in the harness-making business. He married Sarah Morse (a niece of S. B. F. Morse, of telegraph fame), who lived to be ninety-three years of age, and he was also a nonagenarian at his death. The Utley family is of English lineage. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a native of the Empire state and he and his wife, Mrs. Eunice Butler, were among the early pioneer settlers of Whiteside county. Both lived to an advanced age, Mrs. Butler's death occurring when she had reached the age of ninety-two. Their family numbered three daughters and five sons.

Dr. Henry Utley, who devoted his life to the practice of medicine and surgery, served his country as a surgeon in the Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteers in the Civil war. He was born at Westernville, New York, June 22, 1822, and was reared to manhood in Oneida county, New York, where his wife spent her girlhood days also. Following their marriage they lived at Turin, New York, and in 1856 came to the middle west, settling in Como, Illinois. There Dr. Utley practiced his profession until 1868, when he became a member of the medical fraternity of Sterling, where he continued throughout his remaining days, passing away in April, 1905, at the age of seventy-four. His wife died at the home of her son, H. B. Utley, in Chicago. Both were members of the Baptist church and Mrs. Utley took a very active and helpful part in the church work. In their family were four sons, of whom Edward died in early childhood. Joseph F., also, deceased, was born in New York in 1850 and came west with his parents in 1856. He married Caroline B. Richards and their children were Mrs. Florence Schmoeger and Edward, both deceased;

Pauline; Mildred; and Theodore. Henry B. Utley, the next of the family, was also born in New York in 1854 and was therefore but two years of age when the family located in Como, Illinois. He now resides in Chicago, being manager of the purchasing department for the International Harvester Company. He was married at Sterling to Martha Harden and to them were born five children: Edith, who died in infancy; Mrs. Bessie Oliver; John; Paul and Margaret. William P. Utley, of this review, completes the family.

William P. Utley was reared to manhood in Sterling and attended the public schools, being graduated from the second ward high school under Professor Albert Bayliss, afterward state superintendent of instruction in Illinois. He next entered the Northwestern University at Evanston and when his education was completed Mr. Utley spent one year as local editor with the Sterling Gazette, after which he engaged with the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company as general agent, with headquarters at Mason City, Iowa, where he remained for over two years. On returning to Sterling he spent five years in this city and then went to Chicago, where he engaged in the whole-sale coal business for about seventeen years, making his home during that period in Oak Park. In 1903 he returned to Sterling, where he now resides.

The lady who now bears his name was in her maidenhood Miss Lida T. Howland and they were married on the 20th of October, 1880. Her parents were James and Eliza (Canfield) Howland. Her father was born at Lisle, New York, May 6, 1809, was the son of Consider Howland and was a representative in the sixth generation of the descendants of Henry Howland, who came to America on the Mayflower. James Howland lived at Lisle, Broome county, New York, until 1850, when he came west and purchased a farm in Coloma township. He also purchased land in Minnesota and spent the summer months in the western states, while the winter seasons were passed in New York until 1868. In that year he settled permanently in Sterling. He was an extensive landowner and a man of large affairs. Following his removal to the middle west he lived upon his home farm until his death, which occurred in 1879 when he was seventy years of age. He was killed by a runaway team that crashed into his buggy from the rear, throwing him out and causing injuries from which he died. His wife was born October 9, 1815, in the state of New York, and they were married December 29, 1833. She died December 4, 1861, at the age of forty-six years. Mr. and Mrs. Utley became the parents of four children, of whom James Howland died at the age of two and a half years. Frederick Daniel is a graduate of Harvard University of the class of 1908 and is now in the employ of the International Harvester Company of Chicago, in their accounting department. Helen Caroline is attending Ferry Hall at Lake Forest, Illinois; and Ruth Howland is a pupil in the high school of Sterling.

Mr. and Mrs. Utley are members of the Congregational church, to which all of their children also belong. Politically he is a republican and for four years served as a trustee of the town of Cicero in Cook county while residing at Oak Park. He owns a beautiful home at No. 805 West Third street, known as the old Edson home, built by Simeon Farwell, a brother of John V. Farwell of Chicago. In business affairs his judgment is sound and

reliable and his purchases of land have been so capably made that he is today the owner of some of the finest farming property in this section of Illinois.

JOSEPH ELLSWORTH WILGER.

Joseph Ellsworth Wilger devotes his time and energies to general farming on section 22, Jordan township. It was in this township that his birth occurred October 24, 1864. He is of German lineage, his parents being Joseph and Mary (Grubb) Wilger, both natives of Germany. The mother was born near the Rhine, June 18, 1831, and was a daughter of Francis and Anna Marie (Bart) Grubb, who died in Germany. It was in 1853 that Mary Grubb came to America, locating at Danville, Montour county, Pennsylvania, and on the 4th of July, 1853, she gave her hand in marriage to Joseph Wilger, three other couples being married at the same time. In 1859 Mr. and Mrs. Wilger came to Whiteside county, Illinois, and located at Jordan Center in Jordan township, where the father resided until his death, which occurred December 10, 1878, when he was sixty-one years of age. He was a very industrious man and left to his children the priceless heritage of an untarnished name and an example that may well be followed.

In the family were the following children: Mary is the wife of Robert Wentzel, of Woodlawn, Illinois, and has five children: Joseph, who married Clara Eisle and has two children, Robert and Louise; Susie, who is the wife of Austin Weaver and has two children, Lena and Glenn; Mollie; Maggie; and Robert. Nicholas Wilger married Jennie Shannon and has one son, Donald. They reside in Sterling. Mrs. Maggie Mensch lives in Jordan and has two children, Romer and Marie. Mathias, also a resident of Sterling, married Cora Over and has two children, Charles and Dorothy. Joseph E. is the next of the family. Lena is the wife of Charles Higley, living near Polo, Illinois, and they have one child, Leslie. Carrie is the wife of Thomas Pfundstein, of Jordan township, and has one child, Leta Belle. Agnes and Lizzie both died in infancy.

Joseph E. Wilger was educated in the common schools, acquainting himself with the branches of learning usually taught in such institutions. He remained at home with his mother and assisted her in carrying on the home farm until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life on his own account, renting a farm from John Kirges. He remained upon that property for nine years, after which he leased the James Thompson place, whereon he resided for two years. On the expiration of that period he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Thomas Pfundstein, and they rented the James Anderson farm of two hundred acres, which remained their place of residence for five years, during which time they gathered rich harvests as the result of the care and labor which they bestowed upon the fields.

On the expiration of that period Joseph E. Wilger purchased the farm upon which he now resides. This place embraces a quarter section of land,

all of which has been brought under a high state of cultivation through the enterprising efforts, directed by sound judgment, of Mr. Wilger. In the midst of his farm stands a substantial residence with good barns and out-buildings and everything about the place is indicative of his supervision and practical methods. His life illustrates clearly what can be accomplished by industry, integrity and determination in a country where effort is not hampered by caste or class. He started out in life for himself with very limited means and invested most of his money in a team of horses. By careful economy and good management and by unremitting diligence he gradually increased his possessions until his capital was sufficient to permit his purchase of the farm which is now his home. It is a beautiful place, in the midst of the richest agricultural district of Illinois, and he annually harvests rich crops.

Mr. Wilger was married December 4, 1895, to Miss Jessie Jeannette Maxwell, a daughter of William and Catherine (McElear) Maxwell, who were natives of Scotland and Ireland respectively. They became residents of Jordan township at an early period in the development of this part of the county. Mrs. Wilger died on the 5th of December, 1904, at the age of forty years, leaving a family of six children: Leora Marie, born April 17, 1897; Ina Catharine, June 2, 1898; Lyman Ellsworth, July 30, 1899; Ethel, July 3, 1901; Jessie Jeannette, December 5, 1902; and Russell Maxwell, November 10, 1904.

Mr. Wilger votes the republican ticket and is a staunch advocate of the principles of that party. His ancestors were of Catholic and Lutheran faith but he is not identified with any church. His life, however, is actuated by high and honorable principles and he has adhered closely to rules of straightforward business dealing in all of his relations with his fellowmen. He is well known in the county, where his entire life has been passed and where he has so directed his efforts that he has overcome difficulties and obstacles and worked his way steadily upward to a position of affluence.

FRANK R. TIMMERMAN, D. D. S.

Dr. Frank R. Timmerman, one of the leading practitioners of dentistry in Whiteside county, was born at Keokuk, Iowa, April 2, 1872, a son of W. V. and Mary (Oberton) Timmerman, natives of Cayuga county, New York. The father removed westward in 1865, locating at Spring Hill, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he was first employed as a farm hand, and subsequently entered the service of the railroad company as foreman on a bridge gang. Both he and his wife are still living and he is now successfully engaged in business in Erie, Illinois. His family numbered five children, namely: Alice and Dillon, who are deceased; one who passed away in infancy; Frank R., of this review; and Fred W., of Chicago, Illinois.

After acquiring his literary education Frank R. Timmerman entered the American Dental College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1895.

Determining to put his theoretical knowledge to the practical test, he then located at Moline, Illinois, where he successfully followed his profession for three years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Chicago, where he remained for eight years, his skill and ability in the line of his chosen calling making his patronage a large and profitable one. On leaving the metropolis he came to Erie, Illinois, where he has since been engaged in practice, being widely recognized as one of the leading dentists of Whiteside county, for he has met with a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity in the prosecution of his profession.

In 1901 Dr. Timmerman was united in marriage to Miss Clara Keaser, who was born in New York in 1872, her parents being now deceased. She was one of a family of five children. In his political views the doctor is a republican, while fraternally he is connected with Erie Lodge, No. 667, A. F. & A. M., the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Chicago, Whitecloud Lodge, No. 584, K. P. He and his wife worship with the Christian church and are highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth, while the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended them.

JOHN EVANS SCOTT.

No history of Whiteside county would be complete without mention of John Evans Scott, a retired farmer now living in Como. He has for almost seventy years made his home in this county, arriving here when a wild district offered its hospitality to the incoming settlers. The inhabitants, however, were very few at that time, and only a small portion of the land had been brought under cultivation.

Mr. Scott was born in Morgan county, Ohio, May 26, 1829, his parents being Jesse and Anna G. (Sherman) Scott. He is now the only survivor of a family of thirteen children. His father was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812, being captain of a company under command of General Johnson. Later he did military service in fighting the Indians in the middle west in the early '40s. His marriage to Anna D. Sherman occurred January 13, 1815. She was born in Ohio and was a relative of General and Senator Sherman. Thus, on both sides, John E. Scott is descended from a patriotic ancestry. Not only his father, but his grandfather served in the war of 1812, and the latter lived to the very remarkable old age of one hundred and seven years.

The father, Jesse Scott, was a millright by trade and built many large mills in Ohio. He also engaged in the milling business, at one time operating three different mills. In the early spring of 1839 he constructed a large keel-boat of over one hundred tons burden, which gave shelter not only to his family, but was capable of carrying their household goods, cattle and other stock and their provisions. In the latter part of March, having the boat fully loaded, Mr. Scott and his family, together with several other persons, embarked on the Zanesville river, following that stream to the Ohio and proceeded down the latter river to the Mississippi. They then made their way up the Missis-



JOHN E. SCOTT

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issippi to the mouth of the Rock river, continuing up the latter stream to Como. In that locality Mr. Scott established his home and spent his remaining days. The boat on which the family had made the long journey was said to be of very unique style of water craft, and the only boat on record which was propelled against the strong current of the Mississippi by horse-power. It was used for several years, plying on the Mississippi and was called the Rippler.

Jesse Scott seemed fitted by nature for pioneer life. He met bravely and uncomplainingly all the hardships incident to settlement upon the frontier, was energetic, persistent and successful. For a long period he was associated with the agricultural interests of Whiteside county, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest, March 13, 1879, at the age of nearly ninety years. The family numbered thirteen children: Asa, born February 26, 1817, married Elizabeth Taylor and had sixteen children. Jane, born March 5, 1818, married Isaac Bretelle and had four children. Josiah S., born May 18, 1819, married Harriet Corell, and had twelve children. David, born December 5, 1820, married Lena Sophina Stone, and had nine children. Hiram B., born June 6, 1822 died unmarried. Adrial, born November 30, 1823, wedded Mary Salome and had five children. Joel S., born September 30, 1824, married Polly Stellions and had one child. John E., is the next younger. Mary E was born June 4, 1830. Maria, born February 14, 1831, became the wife of Lewis Davis. Caroline D., born August 8, 1832, became the wife of Alphonso Brooks and had three children. Alice E. was born February 27, 1834. Emeline, who was born February 4, 1842, was drowned in Rock river, near Como, May 8, 1845.

John E. Scott was only ten years of age when the family made the trip westward by way of the rivers. The journey from Morgan county to Como, Illinois, covered several months, including stops of several days at some of the principal places of landing. While waiting at St. Louis this lad of ten years showed that he possessed the same courageous spirit as his father in an adventure which befell him there, for in the rescue of a young girl from the most horrible fate he proved himself a gallant little hero and for his bravery on this occasion he received a reward of two hundred dollars in gold. Following the arrival of the family in Whiteside county he assisted in the arduous task of developing new land, turning the first furrows of the fields and breaking the sod until the farm was all under cultivation. He thus early learned the lessons of industry and enterprise—lessons which have proven of much value to him in his later years. On the 4th of November, 1852, Mr. Scott was married to Miss Jane Shereer, a daughter of John E. and Mary Jane (Cochrane) Shereer. Her parents were natives of Scotland and in early life emigrated to Canada, where they were married. They afterward came to the United States, settling in Will county, Illinois, where their remaining days were passed. The mother came from Scotland to the new world with her uncle, John Coffen, and the vessel on which they sailed was shipwrecked thirty miles from land and the uncle, carrying his little niece on his back, finally succeeded in reaching shore. They had considerable money and valuables on board the vessel, but all was lost in the wreck.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Scott have been born five children: Anna Cecelia, the wife of David Donakee, a resident of Sterling; Anna Eliza, the wife of Charles C. Vandrew, also of Sterling; Ann Adelia, the wife of Oscar Partridge; Oscar H., deceased; and Amy Augusta, who died in infancy.

For many years Mr. Scott carefully conducted his farming interests, but for some time past has left the active duties of the farm to others, the old homestead being now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Partridge, while Mr. Scott lives upon a small place of about four acres in Como. The care of this property is sufficient to keep him busily occupied and in good health. He has passed the seventy-ninth milestone on the journey of life, but seems a man of much younger years. His wife died October 4, 1907, at the age of seventy-six years. Mr. Scott has witnessed many changing events since his arrival in Como. He knew all about the Indian and the Mormon affairs, constituting important chapters in the history of this state at an early day, and was at Nauvoo at the time that Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet was killed. He has lived to see pioneer log cabins replaced by commodious and substantial homes, while the wild prairies were converted into rich fields, bringing forth abundant crops. Towns and villages have sprung up, churches and schools have been built and the work of progress has been carried forward until Whiteside county may well vie in its interests and opportunities with the older east. Mr. Scott has always voted the republican ticket and is a loyal advocate of the principles of the party. He is now one of the oldest citizens of the county, not only in years but also in the length of his residence here, and he receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded one who advances far on life's journey and whose record has at all times been that of an honorable, upright man.

CHARLES BENT.

Charles Bent, who for a long period has been connected with the journalistic interests of Whiteside county as editor and publisher of the Whiteside Sentinel at Morrison, and who since August 1, 1896, has acted as United States pension agent at Chicago, is a prominent and well known citizen of this section of the state. He was born at Chicago, Illinois, December 8, 1844, at the family residence, located at No. 185 Michigan avenue, upon which lot, with others, the Leland, now the Stratford Hotel, was erected. At the time of his birth Chicago contained a population of less than nine thousand inhabitants, and in the year 1844 the first public school building in the city was erected. In the '50s a celebrated tavern known as Bull's Head stood at the intersection of Madison and Halsted streets, and adjoining this locality was the country where picnics and celebrations were held. Great have been the changes which have since occurred, and this city has now become the metropolis of the west.

Mr. Bent was reared in Chicago to his eleventh year, during which time he attended the public schools. Upon the removal of the family to Morri-

son, he continued his studies in the school known as Jacobstown, attending for one winter, subsequent to which time he pursued his studies in the school-house one mile east of the present city of Morrison. He put aside his textbooks in 1857, when a youth in his twelfth year, and in June of the following year entered the office of the Whiteside Sentinel, serving a three years' apprenticeship, his salary for the first year being thirty dollars, for the second fifty dollars and for the third one hundred dollars. The paper had been in existence less than a year when Mr. Bent entered the office and he has been almost continuously connected with it until the present time. After completing his apprenticeship he worked in the office as a journeyman until April, 1864, when he went into the army. His father was a soldier in the Civil war and died in the service in 1862; his only brother was also in service as a member of the Ninety-third Illinois Regiment, and upon the first call for new regiments after he became eighteen years of age, he enlisted April 30, 1864, as a private in Company B, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was appointed third sergeant of his company. The regiment went into camp at Dixon, Illinois, whence it was sent to Camp Butler, near Springfield, where it was mustered into service. The company enlisted for one hundred days' service and was sent to Lafayette, Tennessee, to hold the outposts while the veterans pushed ahead, and remained in that vicinity until about the time of the expiration of the term of service, when it was ordered to Chicago to be mustered out. While enroute news was received from St. Louis that the citizens of that city feared an attack from General Price and the regiment was ordered from Chicago to St. Louis, near which it remained for several weeks doing guard duty until all danger of an attack from Price was over and the regiment was then again sent to Chicago and mustered out.

Returning to his home in Morrison, Mr. Bent once more entered the office of the Sentinel, filling the position of foreman until February 2, 1865, when he again re-enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a private of Company B, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under the call for one year. The regiment was mustered in at Camp Fry, Chicago, and was sent south, being attached to the First Brigade, Second Division, Army of the Cumberland. It was first stationed at Dalton, Georgia, and as Sherman had then commenced his famous march to the sea it had considerable guerrilla fighting to do. Upon the organization of the company Mr. Bent was appointed its first sergeant and was later promoted to the rank of second lieutenant. His brigade received the surrender of the rebel army of northern Georgia and later his regiment was sent to Albany, Georgia, and a part of the brigade were among the first troops at Andersonville after the surrender. Immediately after the surrender of the southern army the cities of the south were so overrun with negroes that the troops had to be detached to keep them on plantations. Lieutenant Bent was detailed with a number of men to go to Newton, Georgia, as assistant provost marshal and agent of the Freedmen's Bureau, his duties being to protect the citizens of Baker county in their homes and as agent of the Freedmen's Bureau to go through the county and make contracts between former slaves and their old masters and to

require them to work. After being there a short time he was appointed assistant provost marshal of his brigade and stationed at Americus. Going to Hawkinsville, Georgia, he was later detailed to go to the region where Jefferson Davis was captured and his headquarters were in the sawmill where Davis spent his last night before capture. Mr. Bent subsequently went to Savannah, Georgia, and there received orders for the faithful execution of which mention is made in the History of the One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, published in the adjutant general's reports, as follows: "December 6, 1865, Lieutenant Charles Bent and twenty men of Company B were sent to Fort Pulaski as a garrison, Lieutenant Bent being responsible for the government property, amounting to several million dollars, which he satisfactorily turned over to his successor when relieved." With his regiment Lieutenant Bent was mustered out of service January 20, 1866, and was paid off at Camp Butler, Springfield, Illinois.

Returning home, Mr. Bent resumed his position in the office of the Whiteside Sentinel, serving as foreman until July, 1867, when, in company with his brother-in-law, Maurice Savage, he purchased the Sentinel office from its original proprietor, Alfred McFadden, the partnership between Bent & Savage continuing until May, 1870, when Mr. Bent purchased his partner's interest and published the paper alone until February, 1877, when he sold his office. He then began work on a history of Whiteside county, which he completed in 1878. In March of the following year he once more became proprietor of the Sentinel office and has continuously since been connected with the paper, which he has always editorially conducted in the interest of the republican party. In 1887 Mr. Bent erected a modern building, which has since been the home of the Sentinel, and in which is also conducted an up-to-date job printing department. Fifty years ago, in June of 1858, Mr. Bent commenced his service with The Sentinel, with which he is yet connected. A half century of life is a long time to dedicate to one newspaper, and very few, if any, publishers in Illinois, can equal this record of continuous service.

In the spring of 1907 Mr. Bent was appointed pension agent at Chicago. He is proving himself a most capable official, discharging his duties with the same interest and fidelity that was ever manifest in his private affairs. As a stalwart advocate of the republican party, Mr. Bent has filled several public positions, having been elected on that ticket in November, 1878, to the state senate from the eleventh district, comprising Whiteside and Carroll counties, serving as a member of the senate for a term of four years. From December, 1870, until the office was abolished three years later, he served as assistant assessor of internal revenue in the third collection district, while from 1870 until 1872 he served as alderman of his home city and was re-elected to the position in 1875, again serving for two years. He was also a member of the board of education from 1877 until 1884 and again from 1887 until 1896. In April, 1883, he was appointed by Governor Hamilton a member of the state board of canal commissioners for a term of two years, during which time he served as president of that body. In February, 1889, he was appointed by Governor Fifer as a commissioner of the Illinois state penitentiary at Joliet, holding the position until January, 1893, when he resigned upon the

election of a democratic governor. He also served for several years as a member of the state republican committee, and in all these positions discharged his duties to the entire satisfaction of the public.

On the 15th of August, 1870, Mr. Bent was united in marriage to Miss Decima Manington, who was born in West Vienna township, Oneida county, New York, July 9, 1844, a daughter of Alfred and Sophia Manington, natives of England. The children of this marriage are as follows: Paul Alphonso, who was born May 28, 1871, is now engaged as foreman of the Whiteside Sentinel. He was married June 25, 1895, at Morrison, to Miss Luna Quackenbush. Elizabeth, who was born July 26, 1873, was married on the 15th of October, 1895, to Robert C. Sattley, and died at their home in Wheaton, Illinois, April 22, 1902. Charles, who was born August 2, 1875, wedded Miss Mabel Bauzeville, their marriage being celebrated November 3, 1898. During his father's temporary absence he has the management of the business of the Whiteside Sentinel. Ruth, born October 26, 1877, the next member of the family, was married February 14, 1901, to Fred A. Bapp, of Ottawa, Illinois, where they reside. Harry, who was born March 13, 1880, served during the Spanish-American war as a member of Company I, Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with service in Porto Rico, and is now also engaged on The Sentinel force. He was married at Morrison to Miss Hazel Ward, October 25, 1904. George Manington, born June 6, 1890, completes the family.

Mr. Bent is affiliated with the Masonic order, belonging to Dunlap Lodge, No. 321, F. & A. M.; Fulton Chapter, No. 108, R. A. M.; and Sterling Commandery, K. T. He is also a member of Grove Lodge, No. 257, I. O. O. F., of which he is a past grand and past representative to the State Grand Lodge; of the Bethel Encampment, No. 150, of which he was past chief patriarch and also past representative to the State Encampment; of Alpheus Clark Post, No. 118, G. A. R., of which he is a past commander, and on a number of occasions has represented it in the State Encampment and his state in the National Encampment. He is also a member of the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion at Chicago and of the society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Mr. Bent's residence in Morrison covers a period of more than a half century and he therefore has a very wide and favorable acquaintance, so that his record cannot help but prove of deep interest to the readers of this volume.

CHARLES H. WOODBURN.

Charles H. Woodburn, an able member of the Sterling bar, was born in Sterling township, Whiteside county, November 5, 1861. His paternal grandfather, George W. Woodburn, was a native of Pennsylvania, where he engaged in merchandising in early life but became one of the pioneer settlers of Whiteside county in 1837, pre-empting a claim here before the land was placed on the market. The entire district was one great stretch of unbroken prairie, over which wild animals roamed at will. Only five years before had

the Black Hawk war been fought and there were many traces of Indian occupancy in the state. Mr. Woodburn, however, believed that this great prairie country offered good opportunities to the agriculturist and in 1837 he returned to Pennsylvania for his wife and child, bringing them to the claim which he had secured. Here they lived amid pioneer scenes and environments until 1849, when, attracted by the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast, Mr. Woodburn made an overland trip to California, where he engaged in mining for about ten years. Again he became familiar with a different phase of frontier life, being a factor in that picturesque period of the early mining days of California. Returning to Whiteside county, he here spent the remainder of his life, dying on the 19th of June, 1872, when about seventy-five years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Williams, died in early womanhood, leaving James H. Woodburn, an only child. Following his return from California, George W. Woodburn married again and was survived by his second wife, Mrs. Phoebe A. Woodburn.

James H. Woodburn was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and was brought to Illinois by his parents in early childhood. Here he was reared to adult age and when a lad of ten years entered Linn Academy at Indianapolis, whence he afterward went to Big Springs Academy when sixteen years of age. In that institution he completed his education, being thus provided with liberal advantages. After putting aside his text-books, he engaged in farm labor until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when in response to his country's need he enlisted on the 2d of August, 1862, as a member of Company I, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until peace was restored, being mustered out on the 12th of June, 1865. He enlisted as a private and was promoted to the rank of corporal, while subsequently he became sergeant and lieutenant. He participated in the battles of Stone River, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Ringgold Gap, Franklin and Nashville and the Atlanta campaign. He was ever a faithful and loyal soldier, courageous on the field of battle and meeting unflinchingly the hardships of war. When hostilities had ceased he returned to the north and gave his attention to horticultural pursuits, conducting a nursery and greenhouse for a number of years. He then discontinued the greenhouse but still handles seeds and nursery stock just outside of the city limits of Sterling on the west. He began farming there before the war, but his health was not able to meet the demands of active farm life and thus he turned his attention to the nursery business.

On the 15th of November, 1858, James H. Woodburn was united in marriage to Miss Susan Farrar, who was born in Manchester, New Hampshire, and was a daughter of Isaac and Hannah Farrar. Her father spent his entire life in the old Granite state. Her mother died about the time of the outbreak of the Civil war when sixty years of age. Their family numbered one son and four daughters, including Mrs. Woodburn, who in Whiteside county gained many warm friends, so that her death was deeply regretted when in 1904, at the age of seventy-four years, she passed away. Mr. Woodburn was a Presbyterian in early life but when his old army chaplain, Rev. W. H. Smith, accepted a pastorate in Sterling after the war, Mr. Woodburn and his

wife united with the Fourth Street Methodist church and he has continued a member of that organization to the present time. In the work of the church he has been actively and helpfully interested and for twenty-four years was president of its board of trustees. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party since its organization and he maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Will Robinson Post, G. A. R. Unto him and his wife were born but two children and the elder, George W., died on Easter Sunday of 1890.

Charles H. Woodburn, the younger son, has spent his entire life in Sterling and pursued his education in the public schools. During the periods of vacation he worked for his father in the greenhouse and nursery, and after leaving school, when about eighteen years of age, he took up the study of shorthand in the Sterling Business College, from which he was graduated on the completion of the course. In 1881 he began reporting in the courts of Whiteside county and was thus engaged in Whiteside and adjoining counties as an independent reporter for seven years. In 1888 he was appointed the official reporter for Judge John D. Crabtree, of Dixon, under whom he served for five or six years, and afterward under Judge Garver. He also did considerable work with other judges, and when the circuits were changed he worked under Judge Frank D. Ramsey, of Morrison. In the meantime Mr. Woodburn took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar in November, 1897, but continued reporting until about 1899. He then opened his law office and entered upon the practice of the profession in Sterling, where he has since remained, gradually securing a good clientage which connects him with much important litigation tried in the courts. He is now master in chancery of Whiteside county, a position which he has filled for over four years.

On the 11th of February, 1885, Mr. Woodburn was married to Miss Mary J. Clatworthy, a daughter of the Rev. William H. and Elizabeth (Crocker) Clatworthy. Her father is a native of England and was a son of William and Jane Clatworthy. He became a boss miner in his native country and also engaged in preaching the gospel there. About 1870 he crossed the Atlantic to America and after his arrival in this country joined the Wesleyan Methodists, preaching as a minister of that denomination until about 1878. He then purchased a farm in Lee county, Illinois, upon which he took up his abode, making it his place of residence until about 1887, when he accepted the pastorate of the Methodist Episcopal church at Lyndon, Illinois. After two years thus passed he returned to his farm, upon which he lived until the death of his wife, which occurred June 28, 1902, when she was sixty-three years of age. In 1904 he married Miss Rachel McKegan, of Yates City, Illinois, where they are now residing. By his first marriage he had seven children who reached adult age and are still living, namely: William H. Clatworthy, Jr., of Sterling; Mrs. Woodburn; Emma, the wife of David T. Hill, of Jerseyville, Illinois; Alfred, who makes his home in Van Petten, Illinois; Carrie, the wife of R. A. Landon, of Jerseyville, Illinois; Rose, who became the wife of Dr. R. M. Smith and resides in Camden, New Jersey; and Ernest G., also of Van Petten, Illinois. The maternal grandfather of

Mrs. Woodburn was John Croker, a farmer of England, who died there in middle life. His wife, Mrs. Mary Croker, afterward came to America with her daughter, Mrs. Clatworthy, and died in Sycamore, Illinois, at the age of seventy-seven years. She had three sons and a daughter: William, Richard, John and Mrs. Elizabeth Clatworthy.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodburn have but one child, a daughter, Kathryn. They are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist church and Mr. Woodburn is secretary of its board of stewards. At the present writing he is serving as chairman of the building committee of the new church, which is now being erected. Fraternally he is connected with Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M., and also belongs to the Knights of the Globe. He is a worthy representative of a prominent pioneer family of the county and is making a creditable record as a member of the Sterling bar.

MRS. MARY C. HELLIER.

Mrs. Mary C. Hellier, a resident of Tampico township, is the widow of Robert N. Hellier, who died recently in Clinton, Iowa, as the result of a surgical operation. He was born near Exeter, in Devonshire, England, April 27, 1849, and when eighteen years of age came to America, attracted by the broader business opportunities of the new world. He made his way direct to Chicago, but soon afterwards removed to Fairfield, Bureau county, Illinois, where he was united in marriage to Miss Alwilda E. Newell on the 11th of September, 1873. As the years passed eight children were added to the family: William J., Robert N., John H., Anna, Alwilda, Emily, Ida and Maude. Anna and the last two are now deceased. The wife and mother died March 7, 1890. Mr. Hellier was married to his present widow on the 25th of July, 1891. In her maidenhood she was Miss Mary C. Rolla. Unto them were born four children, of whom three survive: Maude, Ethel and Amelia.

Seven years prior to his death, Mr. Hellier removed to a farm near Tampico. He was a very energetic man, working earnestly and indefatigably, and in his business dealings won success. For several years he was engaged in auctioneering and his services were in constant demand by farmers who held public sales. He was ever alert to take advantage of the opportunity that presented and no crier of sales had a stronger personal following than Mr. Hellier. As he traveled over the country as auctioneer, he found many opportunities for judicious investment in real estate, and at his demise was the owner of five hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, of which he left three hundred and eighty acres to the children of his first marriage and two hundred acres to his widow, who also owns two fine residences in Tampico. One hundred and twenty acres of her land is situated on section 9, and eighty acres on section 15, Tampico township. Mrs. Hellier is thus in very comfortable circumstances, having an attractive home and valuable property which returns to her a good income. Her parents are natives of Scotland, where her father is still living. She was one of four children and in her girlhood was trained in the



MRS. MARY C. HELLIER

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work of the household so that she was well qualified to take charge of a home of her own in later years. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a lady of many excellent traits of character who has an extensive circle of friends in this county.

MATHIAS WOLBER.

Mathias Wolber, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Genesee township, was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, April 17, 1857, a son of Chris and Salome (Deiterle) Wolber, who were natives of Germany. The parents emigrated to the United States in 1854 and on reaching Chicago Mr. Wolber pawned his trunk in order to obtain money enough to make the journey to this county. On arriving here he worked as a laborer for two years and then purchased ten acres of land in Jordan township, bringing it under a high state of cultivation. Six years afterward he sold the property and bought forty acres of government land, which he likewise improved, and as his financial resources increased he added to his landed holdings from time to time until at the time of his death he owned two hundred and sixty acres in Jordan and Genesee townships. His success came to him as the merited reward of his unfaltering determination and untiring industry, and he was widely recognized as a worthy pioneer and progressive citizen of his community. His demise occurred in 1893 when he had reached the age of seventy-four years, while his wife, who still survives him, yet resides in Jordan township on the old homestead farm. Unto this worthy couple were born seven children, namely: Mathias, of this review; Mary, the wife of Alexander Grehling, of Sterling; John, deceased; Henry, who lives in Carroll county, Illinois; Rose, the wife of Charles G. Bort, of this county; Frank, who makes his home in Jordan township; and one who died in infancy.

Mathias Wolber acquired a common-school education, and after attaining his majority worked for his father by the month for four years. On the expiration of that period he rented a farm, which he operated successfully for ten years, and subsequently purchased one hundred and twenty acres on section 14, Genesee township, where he has since resided. In addition to the work of the fields he makes a specialty of stock-raising and in the conduct of his farming interests has met with a gratifying measure of prosperity by reason of his well directed energy and capable business management.

Mr. Wolber was united in marriage to Miss Christine F. Steltzer, who was born in Jordan township, August 30, 1860, a daughter of Charles and Edith (Starry) Steltzer, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Maryland. They came to this state in the early '50s. Their family numbered eight children: Nettie, the wife of James Capp, of Sterling; C. W., who lives in Iowa; Mrs. Wolber; Henry M., of Sterling; Edith, who became the wife of W. H. Guinther and resides in Jordan township; George, also of Sterling; and two who are deceased. Charles Steltzer, the father, was called to his final rest in 1885 but the mother still survives at the age of eighty-two years. Mr. and

Mrs. Wolber have two children, Edith A. and Warren M., both at home. The former attended business college for two years at Sterling, Illinois.

In his political views Mr. Wolber is a democrat, quite active in the local ranks of the party. He has served as collector for two years and as supervisor for the past eight years, being at present chairman of the board, while for eighteen years he has been school director. Fraternally he is connected with Coleta Camp, No. 76, M. W. A., of which he is serving as treasurer. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church, with which his wife is also identified, both Mr. and Mrs. Wolber being widely and favorably known throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and sterling traits of character. Throughout his entire life or for more than half a century he has resided in this county and has therefore been a witness of the many changes that have occurred, transforming the region from a barren district into one of the richest agricultural sections of the state.

JOHN B. LOOMIS.

John B. Loomis, engaged in the livery business in Prophetstown, was born in New York, March 18, 1841, his parents being Joel and Parmelia (Bowman) Loomis, natives of Connecticut and Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, respectively. The father died in the Empire state in 1843 and the mother afterward married John Bollen in 1846. By her first marriage she had three children, Alfred E., John B. and Joel E., all residents of Prophetstown. By her second marriage there were born five children: George, who is living in Nebraska; H. S., a resident of Prophetstown; Lucretia, the wife of David Parker, of Iowa; Lewis, deceased; and T. J., a resident of Nebraska. The father, Mr. Bollen, died in 1889.

John B. Loomis remained with his mother until nineteen years of age, when he started out in life on his own account. For a long period he was identified with agricultural pursuits, cultivating rented land for sixteen years. He fed and shipped hogs for four years but not finding that profitable he withdrew from that business and established a livery barn in Prophetstown in 1881. The new venture was more successful and he has continued in that line to the present, having a well equipped livery stable, keeping a good line of carriages and other vehicles and a number of fine roadsters. His patronage has steadily increased with the growth of the community and the business has long since reached profitable proportions. In addition to his livery barn he owns a store building in Manlius, Illinois, and a fine residence in Prophetstown.

On the 16th of December, 1868, occurred the marriage of John B. Loomis and Miss Alvira Barber, a daughter of David and Eliza (Williams) Barber. Her father was born in Vermont and her mother in the state of New York, and at an early day they removed westward to Illinois. They were the parents of three children, Mrs. Loomis, Effa and George. Mr. Barber died in 1892 and his wife, surviving for about eleven years, passed away in 1903. The

grandmother of Mrs. Loomis was the first person buried in Prophetstown cemetery, interment being made in 1844. The family was one of the first to locate in this part of the county and was closely associated with the early pioneer development. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Loomis has been blessed with three children: Carrie, who is yet under the parental roof; Mina, the wife of S. E. Wheelock, of Manlius; and J. B., who is with Armour & Company in Chicago.

Mr. Loomis and his family are members of the Congregational church and are prominent socially in the community, while the hospitality of their own home seems most attractive to their many friends. Mr. Loomis belongs to the Masonic Lodge, No. 293, and is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen Camp No. 16. His political views are in accord with the principles of democracy and his fellow townsmen have elected him to the offices of assessor and road commissioner. His purposes have always been in harmony with public spirited citizenship and his cooperation can always be counted upon when there is a movement afoot to further the welfare of the community. In his business life he has made that steady progress which follows close application and unfaltering energy, and whatever success he has achieved has come to him only through his own efforts, so that he may well be called a self-made man.

LORENZO MICKLE.

Lorenzo Mickle, now deceased, was numbered among the representative and successful agriculturists of Whiteside county, where he lived for about a third of a century. His life exemplified sterling traits of citizenship, of business activity and honor, and of devotion to the ties of friendship and family. He was born in Schoharie county, New York, December 18, 1837, his parents being George and Elizabeth (Cole) Mickle, who were likewise natives of the same county. The father was of German descent and the mother of Holland lineage, and Mr. Mickle spent his last days in Iowa, while his wife passed away in Carroll county, this state. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters: Jeremiah, now deceased; one who died in the state of New York; Mrs. Mary E. Ferguson, deceased; Lorenzo; Mrs. Minerva Slater, of Battle Creek, Iowa; and Albert, who has also passed away.

Lorenzo Mickle was about seventeen years of age when he came with his parents to Whiteside county. Up to that time he had been a resident of Schoharie county, New York, and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. Following the removal westward, the family home was established in Sterling, where he resided up to the time of his marriage. He then removed to York township, Carroll county, Illinois, and settled upon a rented farm. After cultivating this for a brief period his wife received from her father a tract of land and Mr. Mickle purchased forty acres, making their farm about one hundred acres. This was situated in Ustick

township, Whiteside county, and with characteristic energy Mr. Mickle began the cultivation and improvement of the farm. As the years passed he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathered rich crops. He carried on the farm work there until 1872, when he sold that property and came to Fenton township, purchasing a farm, which in 1875 he traded for what is now the Mickle homestead, comprising two hundred and ten acres of valuable and productive land on sections 28 and 29, Fenton township. There are two sets of buildings upon this place and everything about the farm is kept in a state of good repair and indicates the careful supervision of Mrs. Mickle.

It was on the 7th of December, 1857, that Mr. Mickle was married to Miss Charity St. Ores, who was born in Jefferson county, New York, April 10, 1840. Later in that year, her parents, James and Anna (Osmer) St. Ores, came to Illinois, settling in Carroll county. Her father was born and reared in New York, near Lake Champlain, while her mother's birth occurred near Rutland, Vermont, and there her girlhood days were passed. They left the east when their daughter Charity was but four months old, traveling westward across the country until they reached Carroll county, Illinois. They settled in York township, near the Whiteside county line, and there the parents resided until their death. The father owned and operated a sawmill on Johnson creek for some time after he arrived in this state, but later concentrated his energies upon his agricultural pursuits and was the owner of three adjoining farms, one of which was situated in York township, Carroll county, while the other two crossed the boundary line into Ustick township, Whiteside county. He made considerable money through speculation and manifested keen discrimination in placing a valuation upon property, so that his investments were judiciously made and brought him a good profit upon their sale. In his later years he lived retired, putting aside business cares in 1872 and establishing his home in Thompson, where he lived until his death. He was born in 1802 and died at the age of seventy years. His wife passed away in the eighty-fourth year of her age. As the family name indicates, the St. Ores are of French descent, and the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Mickle was Jacob St. Ores, a native of Canada, who on removing to the United States settled on Lake Champlain, in New York. He served for several years in the Revolutionary war and again as a valiant defender of American interests in the war of 1812. He was ordered out by the government to move supplies with his teams at the time of the naval fight on Lake Champlain in the second war with England. His son James, although then a boy of but twelve years, aided him, and Mrs. Mickle tells how her father often related to her the story of that incident and how frightened he was upon the occasion, for the battle was waging on the water near where he and his father were hauling supplies.

Mrs. Mickle was one of a family of eight children, of whom four daughters and two sons reached adult age, married and had families. Unto our subject and his wife were born three children: Anna E., the wife of Clark Hamilton, of Fenton township; Charles, who resides upon a part of his mother's farm; and Pluma, now the wife of T. H. Crocker, of Fenton township.

The death of the husband and father occurred April 7, 1887, when he was in his fiftieth year. His political allegiance was given to the democracy and he was a member of the River Brethren church. His life was at all times actuated on high and honorable principles and was in harmony with his religious professions. He worked persistently and diligently to make a comfortable home for his family and was most devoted to the welfare and happiness of his wife and children. Though more than two decades have come and gone since he passed away, he is yet remembered by many who knew him as a worthy citizen and faithful friend and a devoted husband and father.

ROBERT A. MATHEW, M. D.

Dr. Robert A. Mathew, who since 1901 has been a member of the medical fraternity of Morrison, was born in Hopkins township, this county, in 1872, and was the third in order of birth in a family of five children, whose parents were Thomas and Anna (Thomson) Mathew, both of whom were natives of Scotland. In the year 1835 the father crossed the Atlantic and became a resident of Hopkins township, making his home on a farm which he had previously purchased. There he spent his remaining days, and as the years passed he prospered in his undertakings and added to his original holdings until he was the owner of five hundred and twenty-five acres of rich, productive and valuable land in Hopkins township. He was always a stalwart republican in his political views, was a good neighbor and citizen and was held in the highest esteem. He died in 1893 in his eighty-sixth year, while his wife passed away in 1876 when about thirty-six years of age. She came to the United States with her parents, William and Anna (Burn) Thomson, the family home being established in Virginia. After a few years they removed to Illinois, settling in Ustick township, Whiteside county, where Mr. Thomson followed the occupation of farming. His daughter, Mrs. Mathew, was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church and, like her husband, had many friends who esteemed her highly by reason of her sterling traits of character.

Dr. Mathew was reared to farm work, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the country schools and also continued his studies in Morrison, being graduated from the high school with the class of 1894. He determined upon a professional career and to this end entered the Rush Medical College in the fall of 1894, completing the three years' course by graduation in 1897. He located for practice in La Veta, Colorado, where he remained until 1901, when he came to Morrison, where he has since met with gratifying success, having now gained the patronage of many of the best families of the city and locality.

In 1897 Dr. Mathew was married to Miss Gertrude E. Lewis, who was born in Morrison in 1876, a daughter of John and Ida (Hamilton) Lewis, the former a carpenter now living in Texas. Dr. and Mrs. Mathew have

two sons, Roy and Lewis. They are well known socially, and the hospitality of the majority of the best homes of Morrison and the surrounding district is freely accorded them.

Dr. Mathew is identified with various fraternal organizations, including the Knights of Pythias, the Odd Fellows, the Woodmen of the World, the Fraternal Tribunes and the Mystic Workers of the World. He is also connected with the county and state medical associations. He has had some military experience, being assistant surgeon of the Sixth Infantry of the Illinois National Guard with the rank of captain. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is now serving as alderman of the first ward. He is interested in everything pertaining to the community and its progress, and his influence can always be counted upon to further any movement for the public good.

BENJAMIN F. BROOKS.

Benjamin F. Brooks, a well known and successful agriculturist residing on section 29, Portland township, was born on the 17th of August, 1837, on the old homestead about two miles from his present home, in the log cabin erected by his father, Alphonso Brooks. He is the oldest white child born in this county that is still a resident, and the home in which he first opened his eyes to the light of day was a primitive dwelling constructed of unhewn logs and having but a dirt floor.

Alphonso Brooks, a native of New York, remained in that state until 1833, when he determined to seek a home in the west and turned his face toward the setting sun. After reaching Illinois he took up a claim in Du Page county and spent one season there, but in 1834 he returned to the Empire state, where he married Miss Eliza Teats, who was born and reared in New York. In 1835, accompanied by his young wife, he once more made the journey westward to Illinois, taking up his abode in Whiteside county. From one of the early settlers he purchased a claim of one hundred and twenty acres in Portland township, erecting here the log house previously mentioned. After placing a portion of his land in a good state of cultivation, he disposed of that property and took a claim at Spring Hill, where he erected the first building used as a house of public entertainment in this locality, and there for many years kept a hotel, also engaging in farming.

In early life Benjamin F. Brooks attended the district school and when not busy with his text-books assisted his father in the work of the home farm, thus becoming thoroughly familiar with the line of activity which he chose as a life occupation. On starting out in life on his own account he purchased the old homestead farm, but subsequently traded the property for his present place, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation and on which he has made many modern improvements. He is widely recognized as a man of unremitting industry and good business ability, and the success which has come to him is entirely the result of his well directed labor and untiring energy.

On the 19th of April, 1859, Mr. Brooks was united in marriage to Miss Mary Lanphere, who was born in New York, but who grew to womanhood in Illinois. Six children were born unto this marriage, namely: Fred F., a farmer, who is married and resides in Whiteside county; Emmett, also an agriculturist, who is married and lives in Henry county; Cora, at home; Bert, who is married and engages in farming in Portland township; Alice L., who died at the age of twenty-eight years; and Roy, an undertaker and furniture dealer, of Atkinson, Henry county. On the 6th of April, 1886, Mr. Brooks was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, and three years later, on August 28, 1889, he wedded Miss Electra L. Brown, who was born and reared in Rock Island county, Illinois. There is one son by this union, Marion.

Mr. Brooks cast his first ballot in 1860, voting for Abraham Lincoln for president, and has ever since been conspicuously identified with the republican party. He is prominent and active in local affairs of his party, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his capability and fidelity, have called him to many positions of public trust. He served as deputy during the war time under Sheriffs R. E. Logan and J. Depell; has been township collector, chairman of the township committee; has acted as assessor for twenty-four years; and has attended county conventions as a delegate almost continuously since 1860. He has likewise served one term as supervisor and road commissioner, while for several years he was constable. With the exception of one year he has continuously held the office of school director since attaining his majority, and has therefore always been exempt from the poll tax. For twenty-five years he has been a director of the county fair held at Morrison, and, in fact, his cooperation is ever to be counted upon in any movement or measure calculated to prove of general good. His fraternal relations connect him with the Masonic Lodge, No. 412, at Spring Hill, and with Brooks Camp, No. 225, M. W. A., which was named in his honor and of which he is a charter member.

Mr. and Mrs. Brooks are both members of the Sharon Methodist Episcopal church, he being one of the charter members of the organization and for many years a church trustee. The Sharon church, which adjoins his farm and which was built in 1841, was replaced by a new and larger building in 1907. The frame of the old structure was made of hewed timbers, while the siding was of black walnut, and when a new church edifice was decided upon Louis Heller purchased the old one and began removing it to his place. While being moved, however, the building became stuck in the mud near Mr. Brooks' farm, so the latter bought it and now uses it as a carriage shed, it being still in an excellent state of preservation. Having lived in Whiteside county throughout his entire life, he has not only witnessed the wonderful transformation that has taken place as pioneer conditions and environments have given way before the onward march of civilization, but has also borne his full share in the arduous toil that was necessary in reclaiming the wild land for the uses of the white race. During his early boyhood the schoolhouses, churches and homes were very crude as compared with those of the present day, while the conveniences of railway travel, telephonic com-

munication, etc., were practically unknown. However, all these evidences of a modern civilization have long since been established and the country is inhabited by an industrious, prosperous, enlightened and progressive people.

BERT BESSE.

Bert Besse, a representative general farmer of Portland township, is prominent in the local ranks of the republican party, serving at the present time as a member of the county central committee and also as chairman of the county board of supervisors, in which connection he is rendering efficient service in support of measures of value to the community at large. He was born December 28, 1862, in the township which is still his home.

His father, Peter B. Besse, was a native of Oneida county, New York, born in 1812. He removed to Erie county in 1819 and in July, 1835, came to Portland township, Whiteside county, entering a claim on section 12. There he made his home until his death, which occurred September 17, 1890. He was always one of the leading men of the town and served as county commissioner for several years. He was also supervisor and township trustee, and for a considerable period filled the office of justice of the peace. He aided in establishing the policy and molding the history of the county during its formative period and aided in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which to build the present progress and prosperity of the county. Every evidence of pioneer life was here seen at the time of his arrival. Only three years before had the Black Hawk war occurred, whereby the white race gained supremacy over the country and proved their right to continue the work of civilization here. Indians were still seen, however, in the state and wild game of all kinds was abundant. Deer were frequently killed, while wild turkeys, prairie chickens, ducks and other game were seen in large numbers. The homes of the early settlers were usually small and frequently built of logs. The fire-place was a feature of the household and the furnishings were primitive, but the occupants of the homes were usually people of stalwart purpose and determination who had come here to gain a start in business life and aid in reclaiming the western frontier for the uses of civilization. Mr. Besse bore his full share in the work of progress and development and in fact was one of the valued citizens not only of the early days but through the middle portion of the century as well.

On the 5th of February, 1843, Peter B. Besse married Miss Sarah D. Crook, who was born in Erie county, New York, December 27, 1825, and died in Portland township, July 21 1907. She was a daughter of Asa Crook who settled in Prophetstown in May, 1834, and entered a claim adjoining the present site of the village of Prophetstown. He was probably the first justice of the peace of the county, being elected to that office in 1835. He was also postmaster early in 1836, and numbered among the honored pioneer settlers he well deserves mention in this connection, for he, too, bore his part in shaping the history of the county at an early day. His birth occurred in Rutland



BERT BESSE

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county, Vermont, in 1790, and his death occurred in Sharon, Henry county, Illinois, in 1854. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Dustin, was born in 1793, and they were married in 1811. They had a large family, all of whom lived to an advanced age.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peter B. Besse were born thirteen children, of whom eleven survive: Mrs. Josephine Mulford, of Long Beach, California; Mrs. Louisa Fuller, of Geneseo, Illinois; George B., a resident of Portland township; Mrs. Sarah Fones, of St. John, Oregon; H. Clay, who resides in Chicago; Robert J., of Lyndon township; Mrs. Katie F. Gleason, who makes her home in Lincoln, Nebraska; Bert, of this review; Marion B., of Portland township; Frank, a resident of Springfield, Missouri; and Mrs. Lucy Timmerman, a resident of Portland township. Eugene L. was a soldier of the Civil war, was wounded and died in a hospital at Nashville, Tennessee, while Charles L. died at the age of six years.

Bert Besse, whose name introduces this record, obtained his education in the common schools, worked upon the home farm through the period of his boyhood and youth and when twenty-one years of age started out in life on his own account. He continued with his mother for some time after his father's death and in 1902 he purchased his present farm property of one hundred and seventy-four and a half acres on section 1, Portland township. This is a rich and productive tract of land situated in the midst of the finest farming district of the state and responding readily to the care and labor which Mr. Besse bestows upon it. He keeps the place under a high state of cultivation and its neat and thrifty appearance indicates at once his careful supervision and his practical methods.

Mr. Besse is not only recognized as a representative agriculturist but is also a leader in republican circles and one whose work in behalf of the county has been effective and far-reaching. He is now a member of the central county committee and upon the party ticket has been elected to the office of supervisor for several terms, his incumbency covering a period of eight years. He is now chairman of the county board and is also serving as school director. He is a worthy representative of one of the leading pioneer families of the county and the fact that many of his stanchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time is an indication of the straightforward rules that have governed him in his life contacts and experiences.

HENRY S. WARNER.

No history of Whiteside county would be complete without mention of Henry S. Warner, who is now in the ninetieth year of his age. Moreover, he is one of the pioneers of this part of the state, having settled in Lee county at a very early day, while at the present writing he is spending the evening of life in Sterling. He was born in Hardwick, Massachusetts, July 27, 1819, his parents being Moses M. and Orril (Smith) Warner, who were

natives of Massachusetts. The paternal grandfather was also born in that state and the family comes of German ancestry, while the Smiths were of English descent. The maternal grandfather was likewise a native of the old Bay state, was a farmer by occupation and loyally served the colonies as a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Both he and his wife reached an advanced age and Mr. Smith was blind before his death. Their family numbered three sons and three daughters, including Orril Smith, who became the wife of Moses M. Warner.

The latter was reared to the occupation of farming and followed that pursuit in the east until 1838, when, attracted by the broader opportunities of this pioneer district, he came to Illinois, settling in Lee county on land which extended across the border into Whiteside county. He secured two hundred and twenty acres from the government upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. He afterward sold that place to his son Moses and removed to Lyndon, where he died at the venerable age of eighty-four years, while his wife lived to the remarkable old age of ninety-seven years. They were consistent Christian people, holding membership in the Congregational church, and their graves were made in the Prairieville cemetery. Of their nine children six are now living: Henry S. and Moses M., both of Sterling; George, who is living near Harmony, Illinois; Maria, who married Jared Conine and after his death became the wife of Michael Fellows, of Sterling; Mary, the widow of John Lord, her home being near Dixon, Illinois; and Delphia, whose first husband was Calvin Mann and who afterward married George Warner, of Worcester, Massachusetts. They lost three children: Sarah, their first born, who was the wife of A. L. Porter; Clarissa, the wife of Eli Palmer; and Louisa, who died in childhood.

Henry S. Warner was reared upon a farm in Hardwick, Massachusetts, and attended the old-time subscription schools. He was nineteen years of age when in 1838 he came to Illinois with his father, the family home being established in Lee county, where he continued to reside until 1868. Since that time he has lived in Sterling with the exception of a few years spent in Dakota and in Rock Falls, Illinois. For seventeen years he conducted the old Central Hotel, the first hotel built in Sterling, situated at the corner of Fourth avenue and Third street. He was a popular host and made many friends among the traveling public. Subsequently he went to Dakota, where he remained for four years, after which he returned to Sterling and conducted a boarding house at Rock Falls for six years. He then again came to this city, where he kept boarders for a time, but since the death of his wife he has lived retired.

In 1845 Mr. Warner was married to Miss Phoebe Ann Morehouse, a daughter of Nathan and Sarah (Ayres) Morehouse, who were natives of Connecticut and were among the first to establish homes upon the frontier of Lee county, Illinois. Her father was one of the charter members of the Masonic Lodge of Dixon. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Warner were born three daughters: Sarah, Adelia and Ophelia. The second daughter died when twenty-four years of age and the youngest when twenty-one years of age. Sarah,

the eldest, is the widow of Reuben Oaks Rich, who was born in Avon, Livingston county, New York, January 3, 1833, a son of John and Maria (Oaks) Rich. His father was born October 1, 1811, and his mother March 20, 1818. He was the second in order of birth in their family of seven children, the others being: George Franklin, who was born December 18, 1833; William Henry, born December 24, 1841; and a twin brother of the latter, who died when seven weeks old. In early life Reuben Oaks Rich became a sailor. At the outbreak of the Civil war he recruited a company at Port Clinton, 1, 1907. He was a Mason, having joined that fraternity at Capetown, South Africa. On the 5th of April, 1871, he was married in Sterling to Miss Sarah E. Warner and to them were born six children: John, Henry, Reuben, Ella, Albert and Laura. Of these, John married Blanche Schenck, of Chicago, and they have one son, William. Henry, who engages in the practice of dentistry in Jerseyville, Illinois, married Maude Ferguson, of Waukegan, Illinois, and has two children, Thelma and John. Reuben married Rose Perley, of Polo, and they live in Sterling with their two sons, Ohio, and with it marched to Buffalo. Later, on the 24th of April, 1862, he enlisted in the United States navy and remained in the service for six years, being honorably discharged May 5, 1868, with the rank of ensign. He served on the Wachusett, which belonged to the Asiatic fleet that captured the rebel gunboat Florida about the close of the war. During this important engagement Ensign Rich had charge of the deck of the Wachusett and was complimented for his bravery. On being discharged from the service he came to Sterling, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying of dropsy August Kenneth and Donald. Ella is the wife of Winfield Andrews, of Sterling, and they have three children, Florence, Edgar and Laura. Albert is studying dentistry in Chicago. Laura lives at home and is employed as a clerk in the Wynne-Deavers dry-goods store. Mrs. Warner died in 1854 at the age of thirty-five years and Mr. Warner afterward married Miss Olive Jenness, a daughter of Levi Jenness. They are members of the Congregational church, in which Mr. Warner has served as deacon. They reside at No. 907 Third avenue, where he owns a good home. His political support is given the republican party and he is yet interested in the questions of the day and events of general interest, although he has attained so venerable an age. His has been a well spent life, and an honorable, upright character has won for him in the evening of his days the respect, veneration and honor which should ever be accorded those of his years.

CHARLES E. PECK.

The growth and progress of community, state or nation does not depend upon the machinery of government or upon the efforts of a few but upon the combined labors of those who are loyal in citizenship, amenable to law, active in business and trustworthy in every relation of life. These things conserve the best interest of town or county and the real promoters and upbuilders of

a community are therefore those men who are foremost in its business life and who stand most loyally for its general advancement. To this class belongs Charles E. Peck, cashier of the First National Bank of Albany, Illinois.

He was born in Cordova, Illinois, October 30, 1855, and there remained until the removal of the family to Whiteside county in 1865, his parents being James C. and Margaret (Smith) Peck, natives of Ohio and Indiana respectively. From that time forward he was reared upon the old homestead in Newton township. In his business career as a banker he has made a creditable record as a man of enterprise, ability and determination. His unfailing courtesy has made him popular with the patrons of the bank, while at all times he is perfectly loyal to the interests of the institution which he represents.

The Peck family was established in America in 1637 by Henry Peck who came from England to this country in company with John Davenport, Theophilus Eaton, Edward Hopkins and others. The colony arrived at Boston, Massachusetts, July 26, 1637. The following spring the colony re-embarked and sailing around the cape landed at "new haven" about the middle of April—the exact date is not known. Henry Peck, who settled in New Haven, Connecticut, was one of the signers of the fundamental agreement, or compact, of the settlers made June 4, 1639, and took an active interest in the management of the affairs of the settlement.

The great-grandfather of Charles E. Peck, the branch of the family represented in Albany, Illinois, was Captain Ebenezer Peck, of New Haven, Connecticut, who was one of the largest ship owners of that collective district and did a great trade with China and the East Indies. He owned a considerable portion of what is now the center of New Haven. Captain Ebenezer Peck's first wife was Mary Miles—no children—his second wife was Rebecca Dickerman. To this union was born a large family, namely: William Augustus, Elizabeth Huntington, Ebenezer, James Cornelius (father of Charles E. Peck), Henry Huggins, Edward Hotchkiss Root, Anna Haskell and Edwin Porter.

James Cornelius Peck married Margaret Rosebrough Smith of Mount Carmel, Indiana, in 1848. They moved to Jeffersonville, Indiana, and in 1852 came to Illinois, settling near Cordova, where he engaged in farming. There they remained until 1865, when they removed to Whiteside county, establishing their home in Newton township. Their family is John Rosebrough, Emma Smith, Anna Atwater, Charles Eben, Willis Cornelius, Margaret Elizabeth and Mary Louise. In 1901 they moved to Albany, Illinois, where occurred the death of the father, March 8, 1903. His widow and four children survive at this date—1908—namely: Emma S., Charles E., Margaret E., and Mary L. The father took a deep and abiding interest in all that pertained to the welfare of the community and gave his active cooperation and support to many movements for public good, keeping well informed on the questions of the day, and throughout his life was an inflexible adherent to the republican party. Fraternally he was connected with Albany Lodge, No. 566, A. F. & A. M., as is also his son, Charles E. Peck.

In the maternal line, Charles E. Peck is descended from James and Rebecca (Love) Rosebrough, who were married near Flemingsburg, Ken-

tucky, in 1797. Rebecca Love was born at Hannastown near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The town was burned by the Indians when Rebecca was ten years of age. The family took refuge in the fort with many others and all were saved. Her father died soon after. When she was sixteen years old she moved with her mother to Kentucky. James and Rebecca (Love) Rosebrough's children were: Elizabeth, William, Joseph Howe, Orpha, Dorcas, John, Richard Love, Margaret, Mary, James Hall and Elmore Smith. Margaret Rosebrough married Israel Smith of Williamsburg, Ohio, and to this union was born one child—Margaret Rosebrough Smith (mother of Charles E. Peck).

The Rosebroughs are descendants of the Huguenots, who at the time of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, October 22, 1685, fled with others to Scotland and from there went to Ireland. Charles E. Peck's great-great-grandfather, James Rosebrough, whose mother was Samuel Halls, D. D., son's daughter, resided in North Carolina.

On the paternal side, Charles E. Peck is a direct descendant from Ephraim Williams, founder of Williams College at Williamstown, Massachusetts, whose ancestor came from Norwich, England, to Roxbury, Massachusetts, in 1630; and he is also a descendant of Steven Williams, D. D., who was first pastor of the Congregational church of Long Meadow, Hampden county, near Springfield, Massachusetts, for sixty-six years, or until his death on June 10, 1782, in the ninetieth year of his age. He is buried in the old cemetery at Long Meadow.

MRS. EMMA QUADE.

Mrs. Emma Quade is well known in Erie, where she makes her home. She is the widow of John Quade and was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, August 26, 1846, her parents being James and Lucinda Hamilton, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of the state of New York. Their family numbered six children and the parents are both now deceased.

It was at an early period in the development and improvement of this county that the Hamilton family was here established and under the parental roof the daughter Emma spent the days of her girlhood, while in the public schools she acquired her education. In 1867 she gave her hand in marriage to John Quade, a native of Germany, who came to America in the early '50s and for a time resided in the vicinity of Chicago, securing employment as a farm hand in that locality. He there remained until 1861, when with a companion he drove a herd of cattle and hogs from Chicago to this county, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest. As he was at that time in limited financial circumstances it was necessary that he seek immediate employment and for two years he worked as a farm hand, during which time, by his industry and careful expenditure, he acquired capital sufficient to enable him to purchase one hundred and twenty acres of land. He located his farm in Erie township, where he carried on general agricultural

pursuits throughout his remaining days. As the years passed he brought his land under a high state of cultivation and added many modern equipments and accessories to the farm, making it a model farm property of the twentieth century. Everything about his place indicated his careful supervision and progressive methods. In his business dealings, too, he was thoroughly reliable as well as enterprising and gained a reputation for integrity that was above question.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Quade were born six children: James, of Erie township; Julia, at home; Frank, deceased; John, also at home; Nora, the wife of Charles Conrad, of Erie township; and Perry, who has also passed away. Since her husband's death Mrs. Quade has made her home in the village of Erie, where she has a fine residence and seven lots. In addition to this property she yet owns the farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 21, Erie township, and derives therefrom a good income. She has been a resident of the county for sixty-two years and has therefore witnessed the greater part of its growth as it has emerged from pioneer conditions and taken on all of the evidences of a modern civilization. She has many friends in the county and as the years have gone by the number has increased as the circle of her acquaintance has widened.

GEORGE W. CASTLE.

George W. Castle, a representative of farming interests in Whiteside county, his home being in Erie township, was born in Connecticut, April 27, 1842. His parents, Randolph and Eunice M. (Wheeler) Castle, were also natives of the same state, the former born in 1812, and the latter in 1817. Removing westward with Illinois in view as their destination, they settled in Whiteside county in 1873, and here spent their remaining days, the father passing away in 1889, while the mother died in 1897. Their family numbered five children, of whom George W. is the eldest. The others are: John T., now deceased; Sarah L., the wife of William Smith, of Erie, Illinois; Wallace and Mary, both deceased.

As a farm boy and youth George W. Castle continued upon the old homestead, and as his years and strength increased aided more and more largely in cultivating the fields and caring for the crops. His mental discipline was received in the public schools, which equipped him for life's practical and responsible duties. He remained with his father until twenty years of age, and was then married to Miss Sarah J. Felker, who was born in Michigan and was one of a family of six children. Mr. Castle, following his marriage, rented a farm in Michigan for two years, and afterward went to Minnesota, where he purchased a tract of land, upon which he made his home for seven years. In 1871 he located at Glenwood, Iowa, where he engaged in the manufacture of brooms for six months. He next removed to Indiana and continued in the manufacture and sale of brooms for a year. The succeeding five years were spent in a similar enterprise in Michigan, at

the end of which time Mr. Castle took up his abode in Erie, Illinois, where he continued broom-making for four years. He then again went to Michigan, where he remained for five years, when he once more returned to this county and purchased a farm, of which ninety-three and one-half acres are situated on section 5, Erie township, and he also owns forty acres in Fenton, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation, adding to the place all modern equipments and accessories.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Castle were born ten children: William F., now a resident of Illinois; Charles W., deceased; Randolph, who is living in Beardstown, this state; George L., of California; John F., whose home is in Missouri; Berney, deceased; Ray, living in Beardstown, Illinois; Justin L., also deceased; Thomas F., of Kansas City; and Winnie, the wife of Harry Scherrer, of Rock Falls, Illinois. The wife and mother, Mrs. Sarah Castle, died in 1895, and in 1899 Mr. Castle was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Ada V. (Dennison) Mangan, of Prophetstown township. She was the widow of George K. Mangan, and was born February 17, 1863. By her first marriage she had one son, George, who is now deceased. Her father still lives in Erie, Illinois, but her mother has passed away. By the second marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Castle there are two children: Earl W. and Roy Dennison. The mother was a graduate of the district schools and taught school for twelve years in Whiteside county, and for one year in South Dakota.

The cause of education has always found in Mr. Castle a stalwart supporter and stanch advocate and for several years he did effective work as a school director. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 14, at Erie, Illinois, while both he and his wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. His views on the temperance question are plainly indicated by the loyal support which he gives to the prohibition party. He is interested in the cause of temperance, of justice and of morality, and does all in his power to advance the interests of his fellowmen in these lines. His own life, honorable and upright, has gained for him the respect and confidence of his townsmen, and he now has many friends in this part of the state.

JOHN KRATZ.

John Kratz, a retired farmer living in Sterling, was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, in September, 1838. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent upon a farm there, while the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. Thinking to have better business opportunities in the middle west, he came to Illinois immediately after the Civil war and settled in Jordan township, Whiteside county, where he worked by the month for a time. He then returned to the east, where he was married, after which he brought his bride to this county. A part of his farm was given him, but to his original holdings he added from time to time until he was the owner of two hundred

and eight acres of productive land in Jordan township. He constantly promoted its value through the care and labor which he bestowed upon it, and as the years passed he met with gratifying success. About 1890, however, he retired from the farm, sold the property and removed to Sterling, where he has since made his home.

In 1900 Mr. Kratz was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. She bore the maiden name of Mary Loux, and they traveled life's journey together for many years. They became the parents of six children. Elizabeth, the eldest, is now the wife of W. D. Detweiler, and has two children, Roy and Earl. Catharine is the widow of John Wolber, and has one son, Oscar. Joseph L., a resident of Des Moines, Iowa, married Adelia John, and they have four children: Ella, George, Pearl and Lowell. Mathias L., residing in Sterling, wedded Amelia Krohn, and their children, five in number, are Atha, Reave, Krohnen, Gladys and Lois. Noah L., living in Chicago, married Hattie Eldred, and they have one son, Eldred Kratz. Mary, the youngest of the family, is the wife of Rev. C. F. Oehler, of Sacramento, California, and they have six children: Earl, Ruth, Anna, Freddie, Paul and Lawrence.

Mr. Kratz now lives with his son, Mathias L., at No. 1110 Second avenue, where he is enjoying the comforts of life and some of its luxuries. Mathias L. Kratz is a well known grocer and leading business man of Sterling, conducting a store at No. 114 East Third street. He married Amelia Krohn on the 19th of May, 1897, a daughter of Henry and Hannah (Bouce) Krohn. The Kratz family has long been known in Whiteside county, having for more than forty years been represented here, the father figuring prominently in agricultural circles for a long period. He has lived to witness many changes in the county, as its wild prairie land has been converted into fine farms, while towns and cities have sprung up and are now equipped with many important industrial and commercial interests, which contribute to the general prosperity and business upbuilding of this section of the state.

BENJAMIN M. GLASS.

Benjamin M. Glass, who owns and operates two hundred and forty acres of land on section 11, Prophetstown township, is also extensively engaged in buying, selling and feeding stock. He was born in Woodford county, Illinois, November 22, 1861, a son of Samuel and Mary (Yowles) Glass, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Pennsylvania. The father came to the United States in the early '40s, and passed away in the year 1892, having for a long period survived his wife, whose demise occurred in 1866. Their family numbered twelve children: Margerette, the widow of William Winklepleck, who lives in Chicago; Robert, of Michigan; Benjamin M., of this review; and nine who are deceased.

Benjamin M. Glass pursued his education in the common schools and remained with his parents until he had attained his majority, when he began



BENJAMIN M. GLASS AND FAMILY

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working by the month at farm labor, being thus employed for four years. On the expiration of that period he operated, rented land for two years and then purchased forty acres of land in Woodford county, Illinois, where he made his home for five years. Subsequently he sold that property and bought another tract of one hundred and twenty acres in Woodford county, whereon he lived until 1897, when he again sold out and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Iowa. He only owned the latter tract of land for two days, however, when he disposed of it and bought another farm in Iowa, but sold it in a week and came to Whiteside county, where he purchased one hundred and seventy-five acres in Lyndon township. After residing on this property for five years he sold the land and bought two hundred and forty acres on section 11, Prophetstown township, where he has since made his home. He makes a specialty of buying, selling and feeding stock, and that his interests in this direction are extensive is indicated by the fact that he bought and sold over eleven hundred head in 1907. He is recognized as one of the enterprising and prosperous result of his own well directed labor and capable business management. perous agriculturists and stockmen of the county and his success is entirely

In 1881 Mr. Glass was united in marriage to Miss Emma Hendee, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Matthews) Hendee, the former born in France and the latter in Ohio. Mr. Hendee departed this life in Ohio, while the demise of his wife occurred in Ottawa, Illinois. Mrs. Glass was one of a family of ten children and by her marriage has become the mother of the following named: Arthur E., of Prophetstown; Benjamin F., a graduate of the Kansas City Medical College; Robert; Harry E.; Perry, deceased; Grace; Edna; and Cora P. The oldest son, Arthur E. Glass, was married three years ago to Miss Marcia C. Martin, of Portland township and they have one little daughter, Myrna Irene. He is employed as a rural mail carrier from Prophetstown.

Politically Mr. Glass is a republican and is serving as a school director at the present time. His fraternal relations are with Camp No. 16, Modern Woodmen of America, at Prophetstown, and in the community where they reside both he and his wife are well and favorably known, having gained many warm friends during the period of their residence here.

F. M. LA DUE.

F. M. La Due was born February 11, 1865, upon a farm which is now his home. His parents were Edward A. and Cecelia (Lane) La Due, both of whom were natives of Cayuga county, New York, the former born in 1841 and the latter in 1844. They had a family of four children: Burdett E., who in the practice of medicine is making a specialty of the disease of the nose, ear, eye and throat at Ottawa, Illinois; F. M.; Emma, the wife of J. C. Pinkley, of Spring Valley; and Mary, the wife of Nelson Smith, who is living at Spring Valley, Illinois. While yet a young man the father came to the middle west and located at Yorktown, Bureau county, Illinois, where he engaged in mer-

chandising for a few years. While there he was united in marriage to Cecelia Lane, who lived with her parents on a farm near Yorktown. Shortly afterward Mr. La Due turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land upon which his son F. M. La Due now resides. After farming for a few years he removed to Tampico, where he embarked in the drug business, but for the past twenty-one years has conducted a drug store in Spring Valley, where he now makes him home. He has been closely associated with agricultural and commercial interests in this part of the state and is, moreover, numbered among the early settlers who have aided in the substantial development and improvement of northern and central Illinois.

F. M. La Due was but eight years of age when his parents went to Tampico, where he acquired his education as a public-school student. He remained under the parental roof until 1883, when at the age of eighteen years, he took charge of the home farm. The following year he married and continued to rent and cultivate the old homestead until 1892, when he purchased the property. He resided thereon until 1899, when he rented his land and removed to Tampico, where for three years he was engaged in general merchandising. He then sold his store and entered the live-stock business, in which he continued for two years, buying, selling and shipping live stock. On the expiration of that period, however, he returned to the farm, where he is now living. He has here a beautiful residence and all modern improvements which have been placed there by the present owner and which stand as monuments to his enterprise and thrift.

On the 14th of February, 1884, occurred the marriage of Mr. La Due and Miss Hattie Griffin, who was born in Bristol, Kendall county, Illinois, March 22, 1866, a daughter of Lewis L. and Emily (Bradley) Griffin. Her father was born in the state of New York in 1834, and is now living in Tampico. The mother was born in Schaghticoke, Rensselaer county, New York, May 26, 1843, and was killed by a railroad train at Dunhams Basin, New York, while visiting in the Empire state, September 30, 1893. When she was three years of age she removed with her parents to Bennington, Vermont, and at the age of nine years became a resident of Warren county, New York. On the 29th of January, 1860, she gave her hand in marriage to Lewis L. Griffin. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Griffin removed to Bolton, and afterward lived in Chester, New York, whence they came to the west in 1865, settling at Sugar Grove, Kane county, Illinois, where they remained for a year. On the expiration of that period they took up their abode in Bristol township, Kendall county, but later removed to Plano, where they remained until coming to Tampico township, Whiteside county. There the father carried on farming until the death of his wife, after which he sold his property and has since lived retired. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Griffin were born three children: Marwan, now living in Tampico; Mrs. Dora Shorette, of Dixon, Illinois; and Mrs. La Due. Unto Mr. and Mrs. La Due were born a daughter and two sons: Georgia B., now the wife of Ralph Glassburn, of Tampico, by whom she has one child, Veda; Lewis E., who married Nellie Hunter and resides in Henry county, Illinois; and Stanley B., at home.

Mr. and Mrs. La Due hold membership in the Christian church, which he aided in organizing, also serving as a member of the building committee for the erection of the house of worship. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and he has served as school director and as pathmaster. In his social relations he is connected with the Fraternal Reserves. His entire life has been spent within the borders of this county, and during the greater part of the time he has carried on agricultural pursuits, placing his dependence upon the safe, substantial qualities of energy and determination for the acquirement of success. He is now the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which is endeared to him through the associations of his boyhood and those of his later manhood as well.

HENRY A. MEYER.

Henry A. Meyer, who owns and operates two hundred and sixty-eight acres of rich farming land in Portland township, where he is also extensively engaged in stock-raising, was born June 18, 1851, in Bureau county, Illinois. His father, John F. Meyer, a native of Hille, Westphalia, Germany, was born October 25, 1819, and in 1844 came to America, landing at Charleston, South Carolina, where he was employed until July, 1847, when he removed to Lamoille, Bureau county, Illinois. At the latter place he worked by the month at farm labor for three years and then located on the farm which he had purchased in September, 1849. On the 18th of August, 1850, he was united in marriage to Miss Eva Barbara Genther, whose demise occurred January 24, 1866, at the age of forty-two years. She was a faithful adherent of the Lutheran faith, and Mr. Meyer was one of the organizers of the Evangelical Lutheran Zion church in Lamoille, Illinois, in 1853. When his death occurred in 1903, Bureau county mourned the loss of one of its worthy pioneers and progressive citizens—one who had done his full share in the upbuilding of a pioneer community. Unto him and his wife were born seven children: John C., of Spring Hill, Illinois; Henry A., of this review; Frederick and William, twins, the former deceased and the latter of Bureau county, Illinois; Herman, who also resides in Bureau county; Bertha, deceased; and Justina, the wife of Henry Grothen.

Henry A. Meyer was reared in the county of his nativity and acquired a common-school education. When eighteen years of age he left home and went to Chicago, where he was employed as a clerk in a grocery store for nine years and subsequently worked for one year for the Chicago Packing & Provision Company. He then returned to Lamoille, Bureau county, and engaged in the cultivation of rented land. In 1885 he purchased ninety acres of his present farm in Portland township, Whiteside county, and as the years passed added to his holdings until he now owns two hundred and sixty-eight acres of rich and productive land, while he has also added many modern improvements to his farm that facilitate the work of the fields and enhance its attractive appearance. In addition to his property in this county

he also owns three hundred and twenty acres in Lincoln county, Nebraska. In connection with the work of general farming he likewise carries on stock-raising on an extensive scale and both branches of his business are bringing to him a gratifying financial return, making him one of the prosperous and representative agriculturists of the county.

On the 18th of October, 1881, Mr. Meyer was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Smith, who was born in Lee county, Illinois, in 1864 and was a daughter of Peter and Lizzie (Aurigan) Smith, natives of Germany. The parents of Mrs. Meyer emigrated to America in 1857 and located in Lee county, Illinois. The mother passed away in Sublette, that county, at the age of forty-two years. The father now lives with Mr. and Mrs. Meyer on the farm at the age of seventy-six years. This worthy couple were the parents of three children: Michael P., of Chicago; Mary Williams, who also resides in Chicago; and Mrs. Meyer. The latter became the mother of nine children: John S., William E., Albert J., Wilhelmina L., Henry F., Harley G. and Hattie M., all of whom are at home; and Emma J. and Eva B., who are deceased.

In his political views Mr. Meyer is a democrat and has served as school director, while for fourteen years he has been pathmaster, doing all in his power for the establishment of more and better roads. In fact his influence is always given on the side of reform, progress and improvement and he is widely recognized as one of the county's alert and enterprising citizens and business men. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the German Lutheran church, being highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth, whose lives have ever been actuated by upright and honorable principles.

JOHN GRIDLEY.

In a history of the farming interests of Ustick township, mention should be made of John Gridley, who is one of the old settlers of the county. The name of Gridley has figured in connection with the agricultural development of this county since 1855, when James G. Gridley, father of our subject, took up his abode within its borders. He was born October 1, 1811, at Middleburgh, Schoharie county, New York, a son of John and Margaret (Stopplebeen) Gridley, who were natives of the state of New York and had nine children. James G. Gridley was the third in order of birth, and was reared in the place of his nativity. He afterward lived for some years in Columbia and in Otsego counties, of New York, and in 1855 came to Whiteside county, settling in Morrison, which was then in the first year of its existence. His genius as a mechanic was in immediate requisition to meet the demands of the throng of newcomers in the little town. He was active in the work of incorporating Morrison, was elected one of its first trustees, and was a member of the board for several successive years. He was also the builder of the main part of the school building at Morrison, and also of the First Presbyterian church. He built the second warehouse in Morrison, and

in partnership, first with L. H. Robinson, and later with J. V. Giles, engaged in shipping grain and stock, and also in the sale of lumber. On relinquishing his business interests at Morrison in 1861, he purchased a farm in Ustick township, and afterward removed to Union Grove township, becoming the owner of five hundred acres of land in this county, nearly all of which he brought under excellent cultivation.

James G. Gridley was married three times. He wedded Jane E. Miller, in Columbia county, New York, June 11, 1837, and had three children; Margaret, who became the wife of Joseph G. Sholes, of Moline, Illinois, died in August, 1903; Stephen, of Kingman county, Kansas; and Rachel, who died in Moline, Illinois, October 15, 1877. The death of Mrs. Gridley occurred January 4, 1849, and Mr. Gridley was married October 15, 1850, to Sarah J. Duffin, of Otsego county, New York, where she died November 8, 1854. On the 2d of June, 1857, in Columbia county, New York, James G. Gridley wedded Sarah J. Hornfager, who was born October 3, 1822, in Columbia county, and died in July, 1905. They had three children: John; Charles E., who lives on a farm in Union Grove township; and Mary, who died February 24, 1883, in Union Grove township when seventeen years of age.

The birth of John Gridley occurred in Morrison in 1859, and he was reared in that city and upon the home farm, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges, and by reading, experience and observation he has become a well informed man. His life has been a busy and useful one and he is recognized as a substantial citizen of Ustick township.

On the 28th of September, 1881, John Gridley was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Ward, a daughter of John H. Ward, who was born April 23, 1820, in Niagara county, New York, and became a resident of Whiteside county in 1862, settling in Mount Pleasant township, where he lived until his death on the 4th of September, 1881. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary E. Bump. She was born in Madison, New York, November 29, 1832, was married June 10, 1857, and died January 23, 1896. The old homestead farm of the Ward family in Mount Pleasant township is now occupied by J. F. Ward, who married Miss Cornelia Michael, a cousin of Mr. Gridley. They have two children. Charles H. Ward, another member of the family, lives in Mount Pleasant township, near the old homestead. He wedded Miss Irma Nowlen and has two children.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. John Gridley has been blessed with four children: Ward J., born August 4, 1884; Mabel A., who was born February 11, 1887, and is a junior at Illinois University; James Guy, who was born October 15, 1894; and John W., born December 7, 1899. The family home is one of the fine farms of Ustick township. Mr. Gridley owns and operates three hundred and twenty acres of land, and in his work displays marked energy and capability. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and the fields are highly cultivated, while in the pastures are found good

grades of cattle and horses. In his business interests he displays keen discernment and unwearied industry, and as the years have gone by he has gained a measure of success which is well merited. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen, and also with the Odd Fellows, and his brethren of those orders entertain for him warm regard. His political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party, and in matters of citizenship he is progressive and public spirited.

HENRY KROHN.

Henry Krohn, whose business activity is an element in the commercial progress of Sterling, is now engaged in dealing in marble and granite monuments. He was born in Holstein, Germany, May 30, 1844, a son of John Henry and Anna M. (Sturdtz), Krohn. The former was a son of Casper Henry Krohn, who died in Germany when almost ninety years of age, while his wife, Margaret Krohn, was about eighty years of age at the time of her demise. They had three children. John Sturdtz, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a forester of Germany, where he died at the age of eighty-four years. His wife was Katharine Sturdtz and they had two sons and two daughters, John, Peter, Catherine and Anna M.

John Henry Krohn, the father, was a stone-cutter of Arberdorf, Germany, and died from an accident occasioned by a runaway team on the 24th of March, 1867, when forty-nine years of age. His wife survived him to the age of seventy-two years. Both were members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Krohn was a soldier in the Revolution of 1848. Their family numbered six sons: Henry, of this review; John, deceased; Peter, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Jacob; August, of Merdorf, Germany; and William, a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Henry Krohn, reared in Germany, acquired the greater part of his education there and learned the stone-cutter's trade in his father's shop, beginning work when thirteen years of age. He has since followed the business, covering a period of fifty-one years and undoubtedly one reason for his success is the fact that he has continued in that line in which he embarked as a young tradesman and in which the years have brought him broad experience and thorough knowledge. He was drafted for service in the German army in 1864, during a rebellion in that country and served for fifteen months. In 1867 he came to America, settling first in Clinton, Iowa, where he lived for one year, after which he lived successively in Rock Island, Chicago, and other places until coming to Sterling in 1869. Here for five years he was in the employ of R. B. Colcord, an old settler, and then began business on his own account, since which time he has enjoyed creditable success as proprietor of marble works here. A liberal patronage has been accorded him and in all of his dealings he is found trustworthy and reliable, while his consideration and justice as an employer is indicated by the fact that one man, Charles Buck, has been in his service for over thirty years.

On the 21st of February, 1873, Mr. Krohn was married to Miss T. Hannah Buns, a daughter of Anton Buns. Seven children have been born of this marriage, a son and six daughters: Anna Maria, the wife of Henry Miller, who resides near Craig, Nebraska, and by whom she has three children, Vera, Dorothy and Etta; Margaret, the wife of John Mitchell, a brother of Judge Mitchell, their home being in Chicago and their family numbering one son, Russell; Amelia, the wife of M. L. Kratz, of Sterling, by whom she has five children, Atha, Reaves, Krohn, Gladys and Lois; Minnie, the wife of William Kennedy and a resident of Oregon, Illinois; Louise, the wife of George Thorpe, a resident of Sterling and the mother of two children, Helen and Alfred Henry; William F., who is a clerk in the store of M. L. Kratz, his brother-in-law; and one who died in infancy.

The parents are members of St. John's Lutheran church and are interested in its work and in all measures and movements for the moral progress of the community. Mr. Krohn belongs to the Knights of the Globe and to the Krueger Verein, which is a German army society. For thirty-eight years he has made his home in Sterling and resides at No. 1106 Eighth avenue, where he built a good home in 1873 just prior to his marriage. He also owns eight good city lots and his property interests and his business are the visible evidence of a life of energy and business activity, which has made him a successful representative of the industrial interests of Sterling.

W. H. JAMES.

While the life of W. H. James has passed without exciting incident or startling event, his record is that of a man who has made orderly progression in the business world and who by reason of his loyalty in citizenship and his allegiance to honorable principles deserves mention among the representative and valued residents of his native county. He was here born December 27, 1860, a son of George and Mary (Milton) James, who were natives of England and who are mentioned on another page of this volume. The son spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and at the usual age became a pupil in the public schools, where he mastered the common branches of English learning. He worked with his father until he attained his majority and afterward worked out as a farm hand for two years. He then rented a part of his father-in-law's farm for eight years and thus started out upon an independent business venture. During that time he carefully saved his earnings, which accrued as the result of his diligence and perseverance, and in 1893 he was enabled to make his first purchase of land, becoming owner of one hundred and sixty acres in Fenton township.

There is an old saying that, "Nothing succeeds like success." and when Mr. James had thus succeeded in making a start, he found that forward steps were then less difficult. For ten years he resided upon his original purchase, continuing its improvement and adding to his capital year by year as the sale of his crops brought to him a good return. When a decade had passed he

sold the property and bought five hundred and four acres on sections 4 and 5, Erie township. He removed to this farm in 1904 and is now actively engaged in its development and improvement, having here a valuable property. In addition to cultivating various crops he also is engaged in breeding and raising Norman horses and Poland China hogs. He likewise runs a dairy in connection with his farm, keeping from twenty-five to forty head of cows for this purpose.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. James was married in 1883 to Miss Luella Hubbart, a daughter of James and Maria Hubbart, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Unto Mr. and Mrs. James have been born four children: Edith May, the wife of Willis Thompson, of Fenton township; Ralph H., who is married and carries on a part of his father's farm; Arthur E. and Ava Irene, both at home. The parents have many friends in the community, their good qualities of heart and mind winning for them favorable and lasting regard. Mr. James belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 14, at Erie, and he votes with the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He does not seek office, yet is not remiss in the duties of citizenship, and his cooperation and aid can be counted upon to further many movements for the public good.

FRANKLIN F. HAMILTON.

Franklin F. Hamilton is one of the thrifty and enterprising farmers of Fenton township, who owns and occupies a valuable property of one hundred and seventeen acres lying on sections 27, 33 and 34, his home standing on section 33. He dates his residence in the county from 1844 and has been a life-long resident of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Grand Detour, Lee county, October 30, 1843. The following year he was brought to Whiteside county by his parents, James and Lucinda (Crandall) Hamilton. The father was born in New York in 1812, and in 1836 arrived in Whiteside county, settling in Erie township. He spent his remaining days in this county and was closely identified with its pioneer development and progress. He married Lucinda, daughter of Lewis D. and Phoebe (Hunt) Crandall. Her father was the second settler of Erie township, where he arrived in 1835, taking up his abode on section 18. His death occurred in 1860. Following his marriage James Hamilton returned to Lee county, Illinois, where he resided until 1844, when he returned with his family to Whiteside county. Here he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1874. His entire life was devoted to general agricultural pursuits and he owned one hundred and twenty acres of land in Fenton township, which he converted into a fine farm. His wife survived him until 1881 and died at the age of sixty-six years. Their family numbered six children, namely: James Albert, now living in Newton township; Franklin F., of this review; Emma, the widow of John Quade, of Erie township; Mary A., the wife of George A. Peters, of Fenton township; Clark, also of Fenton township; and George, a resident of Iowa.



FRANK F. HAMILTON

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Upon coming to Whiteside county in 1844, the family home was established in Erie township, about two miles south of the village of Erie, on Rock river. There Franklin F. Hamilton remained until sixteen years of age, when he went with his parents to Coleta, where he continued until he attained his majority. He then started out in life on his own account and taking up his abode in Fenton township, has resided here for forty-four years. He began farming for himself when about twenty-five years of age. He was married December 24, 1866, and worked for his father-in-law for two years. He then engaged in cultivating a rented farm until 1864, in which year he invested in two hundred and thirty-one acres of land, upon which he took up his abode and it has since been his place of residence. He has since sold one hundred and fourteen acres of this property but still retains possession of one hundred and seventeen acres, his home standing on section 33, Fenton township. All of the buildings have been erected by him and stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. The improvements indicate his progressive spirit, and there are many evidences of his practical methods in the desirable results which follow his labors. He uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and carefully regards time, season and conditions of soil in planting his crops. He carries on stock-raising in connection with the cultivation of cereals and has raised Clydesdale horses for a long period. He also made a specialty of Hereford cattle for a time. At present, however, he is practically leaving the labors of the farm to his sons, while he is living retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves.

On the 24th of December, 1863, when about twenty-three years of age, Mr. Hamilton was married to Miss Esther Peters, who was born in Fenton township, November 10, 1846, a daughter of George A. and Charity (Smith) Peters. Mrs. Hamilton passed away July 19, 1879. There were four children of that marriage but two died in infancy, while Frank, who was born February 9, 1879, died December 17, 1882, and Allie, born November 4, 1870 passed away June 28, 1893.

On the 4th of April, 1884, Mr. Hamilton was again married, his second union being with Carrie Naftzger, who was born in Wayne county, Ohio, October 16, 1851, and was a daughter of Peter and Katherine Naftzger. In 1902 Mr. Hamilton was again called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 7th of November of that year. There were three children of that marriage: George L., who was born June 23, 1886, and married Mildred Slocum; Robert P., born November 28, 1889; and Frank M., born November 10, 1894. The sons are now operating the father's farm. Mr. Hamilton also has two grandchildren, Glen and Ralph, the children of his daughter Allie, who was the wife of George W. Olinger.

Mr Hamilton gives his political allegiance to the democracy but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him. However, he is faithful in citizenship to the extent of giving his influence in support of many measures and movements for the public good. It seems hardly possible that it is within the memory of living man when Whiteside county, now thickly populated and containing in its midst thriving cities, basing their

prosperity upon extensive commercial and industrial interests, as well as many highly improved farms, was largely a wild and unsettled district. The great transformation that has been wrought has mostly come about during the sixty-four years in which Mr. Hamilton has lived in this district. In his boyhood days it was not an unusual thing to see Indians in this county nor was it difficult to secure various kinds of wild game for the table. Where the timber grew upon the banks of the streams it still stood in its primeval strength and the open prairie districts were yet covered with their native grasses. There were no large farm houses but here and there a little dwelling or cabin indicated that civilization was penetrating into the wilderness. There were many fire-places in the homes used both for cooking and heating and the tallow candle was still often used to give light. The farm machinery, too, was very crude as compared with the modern agricultural implements but gradually the evidences of pioneer life gave way before an advancing civilization and the history of Whiteside county's development and progress which is familiar to his fellow townsmen through reading or hearsay is familiar to Mr. Hamilton through experience and observation. He well deserves mention among the early settlers and it is with pleasure that we present his life record to our readers.

LUTHER A. WHEELOCK.

Hume township has a goodly quota of enterprising, successful farmers who are promoting the agricultural development of the state, and by well directed business interests are adding to the general prosperity of the county as well as to individual success. This class includes Luther A. Wheelock, who now follows farming on section 33, Hume township. Moreover, he is entitled to representation in this volume as one of the old settlers of the county, for his birth occurred in Prophetstown, October 14, 1857, and therefore for a half century he has been a witness of the growth and improvement of this part of the state.

The parents were Samuel and Almena R. (Langdon) Wheelock. The father was born in Tyringham, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, January 26, 1825, and on the 27th of November, 1844—Thanksgiving day—he led to the marriage altar Miss Almena R. Langdon, whose birth occurred in Westhampton, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, June 7, 1822. For ten years after their marriage they resided in New England, and in 1854 arrived at Prophetstown, Whiteside county. Later they took up their abode in Hume township, where the father purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land. He courageously met all the hardships and privations of pioneer life in transforming his property into a fine farm, and as the years passed he extended its boundaries as opportunity offered until he owned four hundred acres in one body. The land, naturally rich and fertile, responded readily to the care and labor he bestowed upon it, and he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation. He also made handsome improvements upon his farm, erecting an attractive residence and commodious barns and

outbuildings. He was also an extensive stock-raiser, and this proved an important branch of his business. In community affairs he took a deep and helpful interest, and for several terms filled the office of supervisor and also served on the drainage commission and was assessor of Hume township. The Congregational church numbered him as a faithful and devoted member and he was serving as deacon and trustee of the church in Rock Falls at the time of his death. He passed away in Rock Falls, March 9, 1901, having for more than ten years survived his wife, who died on the 3d of January, 1891. She was a lady of many good traits of character and their marriage was blessed with four children: Amanda, now the widow of William Dennison, of Rock Falls; Elbert E., who died February 24, 1908; Luther A.; and Ozro, who died in infancy.

The experiences which came to Luther A. Wheelock in his boyhood and youth were such as usually fall to the lot of the child reared upon the frontier. He was educated in the common schools, and when not busy with his text-books his time was largely given to the work of the farm. He continued his business association with his father until the latter's death, when he inherited a part of the estate and afterward bought out the interest of the other heirs, so that he now owns the old homestead of four hundred acres, which is a finely improved property. He has a beautiful home and all modern equipments and accessories have been added to his place. He has, like his father, carried on stock-raising, making a specialty of shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. His business interests are carefully managed, and his practical experience in early youth has proved an element in his later success.

On the 12th of August, 1874, Mr. Wheelock was married to Miss Sarah C. Freeby, who was born August 29, 1856, in Carbon county, Pennsylvania, and is a daughter of John and Maria Freeby. Her father, whose birth occurred in Pennsylvania, December 27, 1830, is still living in Walnut, Illinois. Her mother, born March 15, 1838, died April 2, 1884. There were twelve children in their family, namely: Sarah C., now Mrs. Wheelock; Frank F., a resident of Slayton, Minnesota; Mary A., the wife of Morgan Simonds, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Lucy, the wife of James Wolf, of Chicago, Illinois; William E., of Sterling; one, who died in infancy; Elizabeth, who has also passed away; Charlie H., a resident of Sterling, Illinois; Fred, who is still under the parental roof; Emma, the wife of Adam Stier, of Chicago; Susan, the wife of Lewellyn Lewis, a resident of Walnut, Illinois; and one who died in infancy. It was in 1850 that Mr. and Mrs. Freeby removed westward, settling in Whiteside county. They established their home in Como, where Mr. Freeby purchased a small farm that he afterward sold. He then removed to Tampico township, where he purchased a tract of land and made his home until the death of his wife. He then retired from active business cares and has since made his home in Walnut, Illinois.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wheelock have been born two children, Charles W. and Cecil L. The latter is at home. The former resides on his father's farm, although living in a separate house and assists in carrying on the farm work. He married Nellie M. Pope, and they have one child, Blanche.

Mr. Wheelock is a stalwart republican, who has served as collector for two years and commissioner of highways for six years, while for a considerable period he has been school director. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is connected fraternally with Tampico Camp, No. 9, M. W. A., with the Knights of the Globe, and with the Fraternal Reserve. He has lived to witness many changes in the county as pioneer conditions have been replaced by those of modern civilization. The land has been taken up tract after tract and converted into good farms, until there are now few acres of uncultivated farm land in the county. The methods of farming, too, are very different from those in vogue in his early boyhood, and much of the work now done by machinery was accomplished by hand, rendering the labors of the agriculturist much more difficult. Mr. Wheelock is meeting with well merited success, and is respected throughout the community in which he has so long resided.

GEORGE WASHINGTON WELLS.

In the history of the pioneer settlers of Whiteside county it is imperative that mention be made of George Washington Wells, who in 1845, when the work of development and improvement had been scarcely begun in this section of the state, took up his abode in Lyndon township. He was born in Licking county, Ohio, October 25, 1825, and was but forty-one years of age when, in 1866, he was called to his final rest. His father, Chester Wells, was also a native of Ohio, born January 6, 1800. He followed the occupation of farming and both he and his father were successful in agricultural pursuits. He died when a comparatively young man, passing away in 1831. His wife, who long survived, bore the maiden name of Lucinda Belt and was born December 3, 1800, in Ohio. Her life record covered the span of years to 1888. In 1867 she became a resident of Illinois and remained in Morrison up to the time of her demise. By her marriage she became the mother of three children: Mary M., who was born January 1, 1824, and died at the age of seven years; George W.; and Benjamin L., who was born September 27, 1827, and died in 1877. He was a farmer of Union Grove township and was well known here.

George Washington Wells, whose name introduces this record, was reared to farm life, attended the district schools and always carried on agricultural pursuits as a source of livelihood. He spent his youth in Ohio when it was largely a frontier district and in 1845 came to this state, when Whiteside county was still regarded as upon the frontier. He made the journey with his uncle, Benjamin Belt, and located in Lyndon township, where he worked on a farm by the month for about five years. Desirous of having a farm of his own that his labors might more directly benefit himself, about 1850 he entered a tract of land in Fenton township in connection with his brother and made his home thereon until his death in 1833. His time and attention were then given to the further development and improvement of his place and

he also operated a threshing machine, becoming one of the successful men of that time. He was a good farmer and business man, sound in judgment and enterprising in spirit.

In 1853 Mr. Wells was united in marriage to Miss Abbie F. Farrington, who was born in Chester, Windsor county, Vermont, in 1829, a daughter of Abraham and Sophia (Blanchard) Farrington and a sister of Jonathan Blanchard, a former president of Wheaton College at Wheaton, Illinois. Abraham Blanchard was a tanner by trade, but devoted his later years to farming. The mother of Mrs. Wells died when she was a babe and her father died in Vermont, when she was a young lady. She came west to Illinois with her sister and family, settling at Unionville, where she married. Mr. and Mrs. Wells became the parents of five sons and a daughter. George W., born in 1854, was a farmer throughout much of his life until he retired from active business pursuits. He married and had a family of twelve children, eight of whom are still living. His death occurred November, 1904. Lester, born in 1853, followed farming in Iowa and there reared his family of four children. He died in 1899. Albert, born in 1859, is a retired farmer at Somers, Iowa. He married and has four children. Chester, born in 1832, is a business man of Morrison. Grant, born in 1863, died in infancy. Mary Lucinda, born in 1865, is the wife of William Lawry, by whom she has one son, James Linnell, who was born in 1891 and is a graduate of the Morrison high school. Mrs. Lawry is living with her mother and she and her son are members of the Presbyterian church, while Mrs. Wells is a devoted member of the Christian church.

Mr. Wells was also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and took a deep interest and active part in the church work. He was a man of strong character and marked individuality and in manner was kindly and charitable, his many excellent traits of character winning for him the highest esteem of all who knew him. His early political allegiance was given to the Whig party and after its dissolution he joined the ranks of the new republican party and cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln. He was a man of very retiring disposition, modest in deportment and never seeking notoriety. His genuine worth, however, was recognized by his friends, who entertained for him the warmest regard. Many years have come and gone since he has passed from this life, but he is yet remembered by the older settlers of the county as a citizen of true and lasting worth.

JOHN N. HARPHAM.

John N. Harpham, whose activity and business enterprise are constantly manifest in one phase or another of an active business career, is now engaged in the conduct of a real-estate and insurance agency and is also carrying on farming and live-stock interests. He is one of Whiteside county's native sons, born May 12, 1859, his parents being Henry C. and Alsia A. (Cooper) Harpham, who were natives of the Empire state. It was there that Henry Harpham,

the paternal grandfather, was also born, but in later years he came to the middle west, where he died when well advanced in years. He was of English lineage. His family of five children included Henry C. Harpham, who engaged in agricultural pursuits as a life work. He came to Illinois at an early day, taking up his abode in Genesee township, Whiteside county, where he developed and cultivated a farm, making it his place of residence until he was called to his final home in 1853 when about thirty years of age. His widow, who still survives him at the age of seventy-five years, is living with her son, Henry. In religious faith she is a Methodist. Her father was Bazel C. Cooper, who was of English descent. In early life he engaged in business as a cooper and wagon manufacturer, possessing much mechanical ingenuity displayed in his use of all kinds of tools. Later he became a farmer. Removing from the east, he settled in Indiana, where he died when about sixty-two years of age. His wife was Mrs. Mary Cooper and they had a large family. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Harpham were born four sons and a daughter: Julius C., and Charles F., who are residents of Lincoln, Nebraska; John N., of this review; Henry, living in Lincoln, Nebraska; and a daughter, who died in infancy.

John N. Harpham is the only member of the family still remaining in Whiteside county. He was about four years of age when he went with his mother to Indiana, living at Hartford, where he attended the district schools. He returned to Sterling, however, when sixteen years of age and for a short time was a pupil in a business college here. He worked at farm labor when a boy and lessons of industry and enterprise were early impressed upon his mind. Following his return to Sterling he began work at the harness-maker's trade with his uncle, John Harpham, and subsequently was employed in a tannery at Sterling, after which he again entered his uncle's harness store as a clerk. Subsequently he went to Nebraska, where he took charge of the hide department for the Lincoln Tanning Company at Lincoln. He also bought hides and afterward entered the employ of James McMillen & Company, of Minneapolis, traveling for that house and also conducting a branch house at Lincoln for two years. On the expiration of that period he formed a partnership with Stoddard J. Dobson and bought the branch house at Lincoln. Two years later he sold out to his partner and after a residence of eleven years in Nebraska's capital city returned to Sterling. Here he assisted in settling up his father-in-law's estate and since 1894 he has followed his present business, handling live-stock, operating farms and conducting a real-estate and loan agency. In all of his business affairs he brings to bear sound judgment, keen discrimination and marked enterprise and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. In connection with A. L. Kreider he built the fine business block now known as the Harpham and Williams block, in which he has his office.

On the 19th of June, 1890, Mr. Harpham was married to Miss Jennie A. Smith, a daughter of Adam and Caroline (Fisher) Smith. Her father was born in Bavaria, Germany, and her mother in Ohio. He came to America when but nine years of age, living in New York city until early manhood, when he came to Illinois, following the printer's trade in this state. He

afterward engaged in the real-estate and live-stock business and met with a most gratifying measure of success. He died November 7, 1903, at the age of fifty-seven years, while his wife passed away March 9, 1900, at the age of fifty-six years. Both were members of the Lutheran church. In their family were four daughters and one son, of whom four are now living: Jennie A., the wife of John N. Harpham; Emma, who died at the age of twenty-six years; Minnie Smith; Emma, the wife of Harry Over, of Sterling; and Carl A., also of Sterling.

Mr. and Mrs. Harpham are members of the Congregational church and are interested in its work and liberal in its support. Politically Mr. Harpham is a republican, but while keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, does not care for public office. He is secretary of the Mineral Springs Park Association, called the Great Northwestern Fair Association, and at one time was a director and its treasurer. He was also secretary and treasurer of the Van Patten Elevator & Grain Company and is pre-eminently known as a man of affairs, energetic and determined, who in the management of important business interests is meeting with gratifying success. He has a wide acquaintance and the salient qualities of his character are such as have gained him admiration in business circles and warm friendships in private life.

JOHN WINKLER.

John Winkler, who owns and operates one hundred and fifteen acres on section 35, Prophetstown township, making a specialty of raising and feeding hogs, was born in Bureau county, Illinois, November 12, 1862, a son of Robert and Harriet (Spake) Winkler, who were born near Dayton, Ohio. In the early '50s they took up their abode in Bureau county, Illinois, where the father was engaged in the operation of rented land for twelve years. At the end of that time he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, thus being an active factor in the early development and improvement of this state. Robert Winkler departed this life on the 5th of February, 1905, but his wife is still living in Prophetstown. Their children, seven in number, were as follows: Elsie J., the wife of William Devenney, of Prophetstown; Thomas Z., deceased; John, of this review; Minnie, the wife of H. Bollen; Dennis, who resides in Mendota, Illinois; Hattie, who became the wife of Oscar Swan and makes her home in Bureau county, Illinois; and one who has passed away.

John Winkler received his education in the common schools and when he had attained the age of fourteen years left the parental roof to make his own way in the world. When he had worked as a farm hand for fourteen years he was married and after this important event in his life he rented a farm, which he successfully conducted for five years. On the expiration of that period he purchased one hundred and fifteen acres on section 35, Prophetstown township, where he has since made his home. In addition to the

work of general farming he makes a specialty of raising and feeding hogs and in both branches of his business he is meeting with a well merited measure of prosperity, being recognized as one of the alert and enterprising representatives of agricultural interests in this locality.

Mr. Winkler was joined in wedlock to Miss Anna Noon, who was born in England in 1874, a daughter of Charles and Martha (Hughes) Noon. Her parents emigrated to Canada in 1874 and after living in that country for a short time crossed the border into the United States, locating in Whiteside county, Illinois, where the father purchased a farm. Charles Noon passed away in 1907, but the mother is still living on the old homestead farm. Mrs. Winkler was the youngest child in a family of fourteen children and by her marriage has become the mother of five: Myrtle V., Martha H., Harold, Ralph and Ray D.

John Winkler gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is at present serving as a school director. He belongs to Odd Fellows Lodge No. 508, at Prophetstown, while both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor, and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his community.

GEORGE BACKUS BESSE.

George Backus Besse, whose popularity and trustworthiness as an officer are indicated by the fact that he is now serving for the third term as town collector of Portland, was born upon the old family homestead here on the 25th of March, 1850, and the days of his boyhood and youth were here passed. He attended the common schools, spending his first year in the Sandy Town school and as time went by mastering the branches of learning which usually constitute the public-school curriculum. When not busy with his text-books his labors were largely devoted to assisting his father. He left home in 1873, at the age of twenty-three years, and went to Kansas, where he remained for seventeen years. He then returned to his native county and, as stated, is serving for the third term as town collector. He is systematic and accurate in discharging the duties of the office and that his official record receives public endorsement is indicated by his re-elections.

On the 25th of September, 1869, Mr. Besse was married to Miss Emma J. Allen, who was born and reared in Raleigh, North Carolina, her natal day being April 15, 1850. She was educated in Raleigh and has an interesting family of seven daughters: Lillie J., now the wife of Frank Wilson, of Geneseo, Illinois; Estelle, the wife of Elzie Beers, also living at Geneseo; Louisa M., the wife of Burtis Derk, of Geneseo; Katie M., the wife of Clyde Barge, whose home is in Waterloo, Iowa; Daisy, who is with her parents; Georgia A., the wife of Ernest Treffer, of Portland; and Myrtle J., at home. All of the family are members of the Methodist church, deeply interested in the work and doing all in their power for the advancement of the cause.

Mr. Besse has a wide and favorable acquaintance in the community where much of his life has been passed and where he has always been known as a reliable citizen.

GERHARD M. CASSENS.

A fact of which due recognition is not usually accorded in connection with the commercial and industrial history of the middle west is that to no foreign element is its presence due in so large a measure as to those who have had their nativity in or trace their lineage to the great empire of Germany. Among those who left the fatherland to identify themselves with American life and institutions, who have pushed their way to the front and are a credit alike to the land of their birth and that of their adoption is Gerhard M. Cassens, who was born in Hanover, June 20, 1863, being a native of the village of Werdum. The family had been represented in Germany for many generations. Martin Cassens, who was a goldsmith by trade, spent his entire life in Germany, where he died at an old age. His wife died in comparatively early womanhood. Their son, Ludwig Cassens, was a sailor in early life and in 1883 crossed the Atlantic to America, establishing his home in Sterling, where he afterward lived retired until his death, which occurred in 1891. His wife still survives him and, like her husband, holds membership in the Lutheran church. He was a soldier of the regular army of Germany. By her marriage Mrs. Cassens became the mother of six sons: Ernest, who is living near Round Grove, Whiteside county; George and Gerhard M., both of Sterling; John and Martin, who are located in Hopkins township, this county; and Henry.

Gerhard M. Cassens lived in Germany until about eighteen years of age and obtained a common-school education there. He afterward learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed for about four years. In 1881 he came to America, settling in Sterling, and began farming in Hopkins township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1902. He still owns a farm of two hundred and eighty acres but, determining to put aside active agricultural pursuits, he established himself in business in Sterling in 1902, opening a machine shop for the manufacture of bob sleds, wagon material and implements. After a time he bought the interest of Peter Frantz in the business, which he conducted alone until September, 1907, when it was incorporated with Edward M. Cobb, of Elgin, Illinois, as president; H. M. Cossey, of Sterling, vice president; Earl Kelley, of Elgin, Illinois, as secretary; and Gerhard M. Cassens as treasurer and manager. They employ between twenty-five and thirty people and sell their goods in all parts of the country.

On the 22d of September, 1887, Mr. Cassens was united in marriage to Miss Mary C. Hendricks, a daughter of Julius and Grecia Hendricks. They have become the parents of six children: Julius, Louisa, Lawrence, Raymond, Marion and Frances. The parents are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Cassens belongs to the Knights of the Globe. Politically he is independ-

ent and has never been an office seeker, yet has served for two terms as highway commissioner. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found here the opportunities he sought, which, by the way, are always open to ambitious, energetic men, and, making the most of these, he has steadily worked his way upward. He possesses the resolution, perseverance and reliability so characteristic of his nation and his name is now enrolled among the substantial citizens of Whiteside county.

CHARLES BACKER.

Among those who have left the fatherland to identify themselves with American life and institutions and have pushed their way forward to success is numbered Charles Backer, an enterprising and progressive agriculturist, owning one hundred and six acres of valuable land, situated on section 22, Prophetstown township. Mr. Backer was born in Germany, January 22, 1855, a son of William and Mary (Bloom) Backer, who were likewise natives of that country, where the mother spent her entire life. The father, however, emigrated to the new world in 1886 and located in Bureau county, Illinois, but after a few years there spent he removed to Minnesota, where his death occurred. His family numbered six children, of whom our subject is the eldest. The others are: Lena, the wife of Charles Stolter, a resident of Nebraska; Henrietta, the wife of Oscar Wolfe, who lives in Bureau county, this state; and three, deceased.

Charles Backer acquired his education in the common schools of his native land, and there remained until he had reached the age of seventeen years, when, having heard favorable reports concerning the advantages to be enjoyed in America, he resolved to try his fortune in the new world. Upon reaching American shores he made his way at once to Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, where he secured employment as a farm hand. He was thus engaged for six years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings in the hope that he might some day engage in business on his own account. On the expiration of that period his hopes were realized, for he found himself in possession of a sum sufficient to justify his purchase of land, and became owner of two hundred and forty acres in Bureau county. He cultivated his land for eleven years, and then disposed of it, and during the succeeding four years cultivated rented land. He then came to Whiteside county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, Prophetstown township, where he lived for two years. He then sold that property and bought one hundred and six acres on section 22, Prophetstown township, which constitutes his present place of residence. He has placed his land under a good state of cultivation and raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, each year harvesting good crops as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon the fields.

Mr. Backer further established a home of his own by his marriage in 1881, the lady of his choice being Miss Sophia Sharff, who was likewise

born in Germany, the year of her birth being 1857. She was a little maiden of five years when she was brought by her parents to Illinois, the family home being established in Bureau county, where she met and married Mr. Backer. She is the only member of the family now living, being one of three children, and her parents are also deceased, the father's death occurring in 1873, while the mother, surviving for a long period, passed away in 1905.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Backer has been blessed with the following children: Emma, the wife of James Funderburg, a resident of Lee county, Illinois; Lena, the wife of George Aylsworth, who lives in Prophetstown township; William, who is married to Pearl Aylsworth, and lives in Prophetstown township; Amelia, the wife of Roy Clark, who resides in Whiteside county; and John, Adolph, George, Myrtie and Florence, all still under the parental roof.

Mr. Backer has always supported the men and measures of the republican party, and has been called by his fellow townsmen to public office, having for nine years served as commissioner, while for twelve years he filled the office of school director. He and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church, in the work of which they take a deep and helpful interest. Though born across the water, he is thoroughly American in thought and feeling, ever loyal to the best interests of his adopted country. He deserves much praise for what he has accomplished in a business way, for he has worked his way up from a very humble position until he is today numbered among the substantial agriculturists and highly esteemed citizens of this section of Whiteside county.

FRANK J. VOGT.

Frank J. Vogt, who for some years has been identified with carpentering in Erie, and also with real-estate operations, and is likewise known in financial circles as a director of the First National Bank, was born June 18, 1859, upon the old home farm in Erie township, about a mile north of the village. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Beck) Vogt, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father was a representative of an old family of that country, and his parents, who were well-to-do people, lived to be centenarians.

John Vogt was born in Schleswig-Holstein and left his native country because of military service which he had rendered in a rebellion against monarchical rule in the fatherland. He had been a spy in the army and when the troops met defeat, fearing that he would be beheaded for the active part which he had taken in opposition to the government, he quietly left his native country and sailed for America. He had no funds when he arrived in this country, although he had been reared in comfortable circumstances in his native land, and whatever success he enjoyed in life came to him as the result of his untiring diligence and well directed labor. He followed rail-roading and ditching for some time, and then turned his attention to farming. He did most of his work when he first arrived in Whiteside county with ox-teams. He owned one hundred and sixty acres of the farm which is

now the property of his son, Frank J. Vogt, first purchasing eighty acres and afterward adding an adjoining tract of similar size. He was married in this country to Miss Elizabeth Beck, who was born in Prussia, the wedding being celebrated in Sterling. In the early days, before the building of railroads, Mr. Vogt had to haul his wheat with ox-teams to Dixon and to Chicago. His wife would put up food enough to last him until his return, for money was very scarce in those days, and he had no funds with which to buy meals when on the way. In the course of years, however, his industry and enterprise triumphed over limited finances and brought him a comfortable competence, enabling him to enjoy many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. Unto him and his wife were born five sons and three daughters, of whom three sons and the daughters are yet living. The family record is as follows: Annie, now the wife of Ed Benymann, a resident of Bloomfield, Nebraska; Susan, who is the widow of Jacob Suck, and lives in Falls City, Nebraska; Frank J.; John, who was a twin of Frank and died at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving a wife and one daughter; Charles, who is living in Newton township; Louis T., of California; and Etta, whose home is in Erie.

When Frank J. Vogt was nine years of age his parents removed from the farm upon which he was born to a farm in Newton township, about two miles from Erie. There they continued to reside until the death of the father, in August, 1883, when he was sixty-three years of age. His widow long survived him and passed away in Erie, February 11, 1907, at the age of eighty years. Following the father's death, Frank J. Vogt purchased the property which he still owns, and upon which he made his home until about five years ago, when he took up his residence in the village. The farm comprises two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land on section 36, Newton township, and for a long period he there carried on general agricultural pursuits, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and adding many modern equipments and accessories to the farm. After taking up his abode in Erie he turned his attention to carpentering. He has also been a director of the First National Bank of Erie since its organization, and is engaged in the real-estate business to a greater or less extent, having handled not a little valuable property in this county.

On the 7th of October, 1897, Mr. Vogt was married to Miss Adele Schmidt, who was born in Davenport, Iowa, May 21, 1867, and when fifteen months of age was taken to a farm near Davenport by her parents, Hans and Louisa (Hannaman) Schmidt, both of whom were natives of Holstein, Germany, and spent their last days in Iowa. They were married in Davenport, Iowa. The father died May 3, 1890, at the age of sixty-three years, while his wife passed away January 23, 1898, at the age of seventy-one years. They were the parents of twelve children, five of whom reached adult age, namely: Henry, now a resident of Cedar county, Iowa; Rudolph; Isadore, who is living upon the old homestead, which has been the family residence for thirty-six years; Mrs. Vogt; and Emma, the wife of B. H. Leese, of Davenport. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Vogt have been born two children, Mildred Louise and Frank Rudolph.

In his political views Mr. Vogt is a stalwart republican. He has served as a school officer in Newton township, and he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Erie. Both he and his wife have many warm friends in the village and this part of the county, their good traits of heart and mind gaining for them the esteem and good will of all with whom they have been brought in contact. Mr. Vogt has spent his entire life in this county, and has thus for almost a half century been a witness of the changes that have been wrought and the transformation which has brought about the present conditions of development, improvement and progress.

DANIEL SCHRYVER.

Among the veterans of the Civil war connected with the interests of Erie is numbered Daniel Schryver, who formerly defended the Union cause during the period of hostilities between the north and the south. He has made an equally creditable record for loyalty and patriotism in the discharge of his duties as an official in civil life, while as a business man he has sustained an unassailable reputation for enterprise and integrity.

He was born in Pittsford, Monroe county, New York, April 21, 1832, a son of Abram T. and Charity (Schaffer) Schryver, who were natives of Delaware county, New York. About 1835 they removed from the Empire state to Michigan, settling near the River Raisin, and in 1837 they established their home at Grand Detour, near Dixon, Illinois, living in that neighborhood for about ten years. They next removed to Elkhorn Grove, where the father entered land from the government, living there for three or four years. The father died at Elkhorn Grove, while the mother's death occurred at Grand Detour, Illinois. They were the parents of five children: Sallie Ann, who died at the age of seventy years; Mary, who died in childhood at the age of four years; Jane, who passed away after reaching womanhood; Joseph, who died at Marysville, Kansas, in December, 1908; and Daniel, who is the only surviving member of the family.

The last named accompanied his parents on their removal, until leaving Elkhorn Grove, when he started out in life for himself. He then went to Galena, Illinois, where for about two years he was employed in the lead mines, at the end of which time he went to Columbus, Kentucky, where he drove stage for one winter. In the spring of 1852 he returned to Dixon and drove stage from that place to Rock Island for two years. In 1854 he was married to Miss Lenora Atwood, and removed to Erie, where he settled upon a rented farm, carrying on general agricultural pursuits there until 1860, when, attracted by the discovery of gold in Colorado, he made his way to Pike's Peak, spending two years in the effort to acquire wealth in the mines.

Not meeting with the success he had anticipated in his search for gold, Mr. Schryver returned to this county and was engaged in farming until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when, feeling that his first duty was to his country, he enlisted in August, 1862, as a member of Company I, Seventy-

fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Hale and Colonel Kilgore. He took part in the battles of Perryville, Jonesboro, Nashville, Stone River, Pine Knob and the Atlanta campaign, after which, with his regiment, he returned to Nashville and participated in the battle near that city. He was also in many minor engagements, the entire being a total of thirty-five. He was ever a brave and loyal soldier, fearlessly facing the enemy on the battlefield or doing his duty on the lonely picket line. He was discharged at Nashville June 19, 1865, after having been continuously with his regiment from the time of his enlistment save for three months spent in Nashville hospital, following the battle of Stone River, on account of illness.

When the war was ended Mr. Schryver returned to Erie and again taking up agricultural pursuits, was identified with general farming in this locality until he retired. He conducted the S. F. Wilder ranch, comprising three thousand acres in Erie and Newton townships, four miles west of the village of Erie. For eight years he conducted that extensive property, and at the same time rented his own farm. In all of his work he has displayed unfaltering perseverance and sound judgment, and these qualities have been substantial elements in his success. He is now in possession of a comfortable competence, which gives him classification with the men of affluence in his community, and his prosperity is well deserved.

Mr. Schryver was married in 1854 to Miss Lenora Atwood, who was born in Brookfield, Orange county, Vermont, December 31, 1835, a daughter of Joseph and Orpha (Whipple) Atwood, who were likewise natives of the Green Mountain state. On removing westward they settled first in Ohio, but after about three months continued their journey to St. Charles, Illinois, and a few months later came to Erie, where they arrived in November, 1851. Here their remaining days were passed, the death of the father occurring when he had reached the age of sixty-three years, while the mother survived to the advanced age of eighty-eight years. Their family numbered three children, Mrs. Schryver, the second in order of birth, being the only one who reached years of maturity. Mr. Atwood was a shoemaker by trade, being the second to engage in that business in Erie, his predecessor being Judge Teats.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schryver were born nine children: Herman, a resident of Erie township; Lucy, who became the wife of Marshall Batty and died at Lewiston, Montana, August 24, 1907; Libby, the wife of Lemuel Cain, of Cashion, Oklahoma; Horace, of Salt Lake City, Utah; Lorena, who died in infancy; Luella, who died at the age of seven years; Homer, whose death occurred when he was five years of age; Harry, who died when but nine weeks old; and Lena, the wife of Richard James, of Erie.

Mr. Schryver is one of the best known citizens of his part of the county. He has been active in community affairs and at all times has been loyal to the best interests of the locality. For over thirty years he has efficiently filled the office of constable. His first presidential vote was cast for John C. Fremont, and he has since been a stalwart advocate of the republican party, voting for all the leaders whose names have appeared at the head of the presidential ticket. For about twenty-five years he was a member of the

Masonic fraternity, also joined the Modern Woodmen Camp, and was a member of Erie Post, G. A. R., which is now extinct.

Mr. Schryver is a splendid type of the self-made man, who from early age has been dependent upon his own resources. He lost his mother when a little lad of six years, and at the age of thirteen years began providing for his own support by working in the lead mines at Galena. Later he entered eighty acres of land a half mile south of Erie, becoming owner of this property in 1853 and retaining it in his possession for a long period. As the years have passed he has made good use of his opportunities, has used his native talents to the best advantage, and by a life of activity, integrity and uprightness has commanded the full confidence and trust of his fellow-men. As a public official, as a soldier and as a business man he has made a record so honorable that he well deserves mention among the prominent residents of Whiteside county, and fully deserves the words of praise and respect which are spoken of him by all who know him.

R. W. E. MITCHELL.

R. W. E. Mitchell, justice of the peace at Sterling, and an able practitioner at the Whiteside county bar, has gained a gratifying clientage in a profession where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit. He was born in Genesee township, this county, on the 4th of March, 1877, his parents being William P. and Julia (Finn) Mitchell, who were natives of Rhode Island. The maternal grandfather was Michael Finn, who was born in Ireland and on coming to America settled at Newport, Rhode Island, where he died at the very venerable age of ninety-two years, while his wife, Mrs. Mary Finn, lived to the age of ninety-four. They had six daughters and one son, including Julia Finn, who in early womanhood gave her hand in marriage to William P. Mitchell. The latter was a carpenter and contractor in the east, and on removing to the west, in 1871, settled at Genesee Grove, in Whiteside county, where he followed farming for ten years. On the expiration of that decade he established his home in Sterling, where he followed his trade up to the time of his death, passing away in 1897 at the age of fifty-six years. His widow still survives him. In their family were eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, of whom nine are now living: Mary, the wife of Wilford Robbillard, of Chicago; John Mitchell, also a resident of Chicago; Katie E., who is the wife of George H. Holland, and lives in Boston, Massachusetts; Monroe E., who makes his home in Chicago; Rutherford W. E., of this review; Frances E., the wife of Tobias K. Nice, Sterling; Josephine, who became the wife of Samuel W. Cohenour, of Lang, Saskatchewan county, Canada; George J. and Robert, both of Sterling; and two who died in early childhood.

Rutherford W. E. Mitchell was about ten years of age when his parents removed to Sterling, and in the public schools of this city he pursued his education, which was continued in the Chicago Business College, while he also

took a course in liberal arts in Drake University at Des Moines, Iowa. He also prepared for the legal profession in that institution, and was admitted to the Iowa bar in 1903. He afterward pursued a post-graduate course in the John Marshall Law School of Chicago, and was admitted to practice in the courts of Illinois in June, 1904. On the 27th of September of that year he opened his office in Sterling, where he has remained to the present time. Realizing fully that the success of the lawyer depends in large measure upon the work which he does in the office prior to entering the courtroom, he prepares his cases with great thoroughness and care, and if there is a close legal point involved he examines every authority within his reach bearing upon the question. In the spring of 1905 he was elected justice of the peace and presides with fairness and impartiality over his court.

On the 20th of July, 1903, Mr. Mitchell was united in marriage to Miss Callie E. Leitz, a daughter of Otto and Catharine (Wahl) Leitz, who were born in Whiteside county and are now residents of Sterling. Their family numbered nine children. Mr. Leitz was a school director for a number of years, and has always manifested a citizen's interest in the welfare and progress of his community. His father, John Leitz, was a native of Germany, and at an early period in the development of Whiteside county settled in Hahnman township, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until well advanced in years, when his life's labors were ended in death. His wife, Mrs. Regina (Strohm) Leitz, still survives him. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Mitchell was Frederick Wahl, also a native of Germany, and one of the pioneer residents of Whiteside county. He married Annie Kirgis, and they removed to Ottumwa, Iowa, but a number of years ago returned to Sterling, where they still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell hold membership in St. John's Lutheran church, and Mr. Mitchell belongs to Rock River Lodge, No. 612, A. F. & A. M., and Sterling Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F. He is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Foresters, while his political allegiance is unswervingly given to the republican party. He resides at No. 409 West Tenth street, where, in the winter of 1905-6 he erected an attractive home, which was the first concrete house built in Whiteside county. Although one of the younger members of the bar, he has given proof of the possession of qualities which insure success in practice. His mind is analytical and logical and by his clearness and force in presenting his cause he has frequently led the jury to see the correctness of his position and to acknowledge in the verdict the justice of his plea.

MASON PORTER BREWER.

Mason Porter Brewer, a prominent and prosperous representative of commercial interests in Prophetstown, where he is conducting a successful business as a hardware and implement dealer, was born on the 7th of February, 1866, in Lyndon township, Whiteside county, Illinois, his parents being Fernando N. and Cordelia Brewer. He acquired his preliminary education



MR. AND MRS. M. P. BREWER

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in a country school, later attended the Lyndon high school and also pursued a course in the Sterling Business College, being graduated from the later institution in April, 1886.

After completing his education he assisted his father in the work of the home farm for two years, and after operating the place for five years removed to Prophetstown in November, 1892. Establishing a creamery business at that place, he successfully carried on the enterprise until the 1st of January, 1895, when he became connected with the hardware and implement business and was engaged in this department of commercial activity until he returned to the old homestead farm on the 1st of March, 1897, and from that date until December, 1902, was actively employed in the operation of his father's farm.

The property was then sold and Mr. Brewer returned to Prophetstown, purchased the Schryver building and once more began business as a hardware and implement dealer, having continuously carried on the enterprise to the present time. He has gained a wide and favorable reputation as a reliable and straightforward business man and his trade has therefore constantly increased until it has reached extensive proportions and brings to him a gratifying financial return. For the past three years Mr. Brewer has also conducted a music store, carrying a well selected line of pianos, organs and other instruments. In the fall of 1905 he enlarged his establishment about one-half in order to meet the growing demands of his patronage and is widely known as a representative and progressive merchant of the city. In March, 1902, he bought three hundred and twenty acres of low swamp land in Fenton township, two years ago put a dredge ditch through the property and has otherwise improved it, erecting a set of modern and substantial buildings thereon in the fall of 1907. A quarter of a century ago this land was entirely covered with water but through the efforts of Mr. Brewer it has become a valuable and productive property and in 1907 yielded a good crop of corn.

On the 22d of April, 1891, Mr. Brewer was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Austin, and their children are as follows: Buel Austin, born March 22, 1892; Karl Mason, whose birth occurred July 16, 1893; Harriet Cordelia, born September 17, 1896; Nellie Marie, January 21, 1899; and Ruth Elinor, born February 4, 1904.

In his political views Mr. Brewer is a stalwart republican and has been quite active in the local ranks of his party. While living on the farm he served as school director for eight years, and for the past four years has also served on the school board in Prophetstown, the cause of education ever finding in him a helpful friend. He is also acting as ditch commissioner, having been elected to this position in 1904. In his fraternal relations he is connected with the Modern Woodmen, which organization he joined August 18, 1896, has been identified with the Mystic Workers since April 14, 1898, and in December, 1895, he became an Odd Fellow. Since 1886 he has been a member of the Methodist church, exemplifying in his life the teachings of both his fraternal and religious connections. A native son of Whiteside county, few men are more prominent or more widely known in Prophetstown than Mr. Brewer. He has been an important factor in business circles and

his prosperity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is public spirited, giving his cooperation to every movement which tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of the community.

JOHN C. TURNEY.

The agricultural interests of Whiteside county find a worthy representative in John C. Turney, who is engaged in farming, being the owner of eighty acres of land situated on section 18, Fenton township, and forty acres on section 22 of the same township, and, with the exception of six acres of timber land, all has been placed under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Turney is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Scio, Harrison county, February 2, 1844.

His parents, John Jacob and Rachel (Tyle) Turney, were likewise natives of Harrison county, Ohio, the former born February 25, 1816, and the latter April 14, 1817. The paternal grandparents were Jacob and Mary Turney, and the latter accompanied her son, John Jacob, from the Buckeye state to Illinois, and died here at the advanced age of eighty years. The parents of our subject were reared and married in their native state and removed to Illinois in 1856, where the father was engaged in farming throughout his remaining days. He was also a great lover of horses, and owned many fine specimens. Their family numbered nine children: Robert, who served in the Civil war as a member of the Seventy-fifth Illinois Regiment, enlisting at Morrison, and whose death occurred at Mound City, Illinois, while he was still in the service; Thomas, who makes his home in Morrison; Mrs. Sarah Atwood, a widow, who makes her home in Iowa; John C., whose name introduces this record; James, who makes his home in Carroll county, Illinois; Jacob, who died in childhood; Harriet, who died in Iowa, January 12, 1907; William J., of Morrison; and Mrs. Jane Mary Roy, who makes her home in Clinton, Iowa. Both the parents are now deceased, their deaths occurring in Carroll county, the mother passing away on the 1st of February, 1884, while the father survived for a number of years and passed away May 17, 1897.

John C. Turney was reared in the Buckeye state to the age of twelve years, when, in 1856, he accompanied his parents on their removal to Whiteside county. His education, which was begun in the schools of Ohio, was continued in the schools of Whiteside county. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and remained with his father until he had reached the age of twenty-three years, when he started out in life on his own account by operating rented land in Garden Plain township, making his home there for three years, at the end of which time he came to Fenton township and purchased a wild and unimproved tract of land, comprising eighty acres, situated on section 18. He did not, however, remove to this place at that time, but rented a tract of land, which he operated for two years, in the meantime improving his pres-

ent place with good buildings, and he then removed to this farm, on which he has made his home for forty years. He has placed all of the improvements here, has grubbed up stumps and has made it a valuable property. Four years ago he added forty acres, situated on section 22, Fenton township, and now has one hundred and twenty acres, six acres of which is covered with timber. He has prospered as the years have gone by, and his success is well deserved, for it has been won only through the most honorable and straightforward methods.

Mr. Turney was married on the 4th of July, 1867, to Mary Katharine Jordan, who was born in Braxton county, West Virginia, February 8, 1850, and at the age of twelve years was brought to Whiteside county by her parents, Amasa M. and Julia Ann (Friend) Jordan, both of whom were natives of West Virginia. Their family numbered seven sons and two daughters. They now make their home in Clinton, this state.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Turney has been blessed with four children: Cora Bell, the wife of Joseph Hawk, a resident of Fenton township; Susanna, the wife of Frank Eckelborg, a resident of Lyndon township, this county; John Jacob, who makes his home in Mount Pleasant township and who wedded Sarah Allen; and Clarence Emery, who is still under the parental roof.

Mr. Turney has been a life-long republican, casting his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, and he has supported each candidate of the party since that time. He has served as highway commissioner for the past six years, and is discharging his duties in a very capable manner. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren church in Fenton, and take a deep and active interest in all religious work. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor, for today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his county.

JACOB A. SWARTLEY.

Jacob A. Swartley, a florist of Sterling, dates his residence in this city from 1874, covering a period of more than a third of a century. His life record began at Rohrerstown, three miles from the city of Lancaster, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1847. The founder of the Swartley family in America was Philip Swartley, who, crossing the Atlantic from Germany, settled in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, since which time his descendants have been numbered among the residents of that state. It was in Montgomery county that Jacob Swartley, the paternal grandfather, was born and reared. He followed farming and was an old man at the time of his death, having almost reached the age of eighty years. His wife was Mrs. Martha (Mancha) Swartley, and to them were born seven children, including Joseph M. Swartley, also a native of the Keystone state. He became a brick-layer in early life and afterward followed farming in both Pennsylvania and Ohio. At the time of the Civil war he was drafted for service, but hired a substitute.

In early manhood he wedded Magdalena L. Denlinger, a daughter of Jacob Denlinger, who was a native of Pennsylvania and of German descent. He followed the cabinet-maker's trade and was nearly ninety years of age when he passed away in 1863. His wife, Mrs. Martha (Landis) Denlinger, survived him until 1875 and was also ninety years of age at the time of her demise. Their family of seven children included Mrs. Joseph M. Swartley, who by her marriage became the mother of six children, as follows: Jacob A., of this review; John D., of Peoria, Illinois; Mary, the wife of John R. Hendricks, of Powhatan, Arkansas; Amos B., a resident of Osborn, Ohio; and David D., of Greene Cove Springs, Florida; and Joseph Phares, of Osborn, Ohio. The father died in Osborn, Ohio, in 1897, at the age of seventy-four years, and his wife died in 1903, at the age of eighty-four years. In religious faith they were Mennonites.

Jacob A. Swartley lived in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, until fifteen years of age and began his education in its public schools. He then accompanied his parents on their removal westward to Ohio, where he lived for ten years, and in 1874 came to Sterling, Illinois, where he has since made his home. He was first identified with its business interests as a carpenter, and in 1900 he opened a greenhouse and floral garden, which he still conducts. He has now four large greenhouses, with forty thousand square feet under glass, and carries on an extensive business, raising fine flowers of all kinds and having a ready sale for cut flowers and plants. He finds his business congenial and his close and assiduous attention thereto, combined with his enterprising spirit, has brought him a gratifying measure of prosperity.

On the 21st of April, 1875, Mr. Swartley was married to Miss Emma B. Delp, a daughter of Jacob H. and Henrietta (Blice) Delp, who were natives of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, but removed from Lancaster county that state to Sterling in 1864. Here the father lived retired in his later years, but for some time engaged in clerking in a store. In Pennsylvania he devoted his energies to farming. At one time he was the owner of the block upon which Mr. and Mrs. Swartley now reside. Their family consisted of the following children, of whom five are now living: Mary, who first wedded Joseph Orr and is now the wife of William Potter; Luetta, the deceased wife of George Shiffner; Rachel, the wife of Robert J. Drynan; Menno, deceased; Susan, the wife of Martin Finley; Mrs. Swartley; and Jacob B.. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Swartley was a native of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and died well advanced in years. His family numbered eight children. The maternal grandfather was John Blice, a native of Germany, who came to America when quite young and settled in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. He was eighty-four years of age at the time of his death, but his wife died in early womanhood, their only child being the mother of Mrs. Swartley.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born six sons and one daughter. Frank J., the eldest, is a lawyer of Spokane, Washington. He married Gertrude Francis and has one child, Gretchen. Ernest Paul is associated with his father in business. Walter E. is an electrician at Spokane, Washington. Emma Lillian is the wife of J. Frederick Ziegler, of Eliazbeth, New Jersey.

Oliver H. is also his father's partner in business. Carl A. and Harold D. are yet under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Swartley are Lutherans in religious faith and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. They are highly esteemed socially and the hospitality of the best homes of Sterling is cordially extended them. Mr. Swartley has made a creditable record in business circles as one who, utilizing his opportunities, has steadily worked his way upward, following methods which neither seek nor require disguise.

JOHN C. MEYER.

John C. Meyer, a carpenter and contractor of Spring Hill, was born in Germany, June 24, 1846. His father, John F. Meyer, was also a native of the fatherland and in 1844 came to America, being first employed at Charleston, South Carolina, until July, 1847, when he removed to Lamoille, Bureau county, Illinois. There he worked by the month at farm labor for three years and on the expiration of that period located on the farm which he had purchased in September, 1849. On the 18th of August, 1850, he wedded Miss Eva Barbara Genter, who died on the 24th of January, 1866, at the age of forty-two years. She was a faithful adherent of the Lutheran faith and Mr. Meyer was one of the organizers of the Evangelical Lutheran Zion church in Lamoille, Illinois, in 1856. When his demise occurred in 1903, Bureau county mourned the loss of one of its early settlers and progressive citizens. Unto him and his wife were born seven children: John C., of this review; Henry A., who follows farming and stock-raising in Portland township; Frederick and William, twins, both of Bureau county, Illinois; Herman, who also resides in Bureau county; Bertha, deceased; and Justina, the wife of Henry Grothen.

John C. Meyer was four years of age when his parents emigrated to the new world and he remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, when he went to Chicago and secured employment at the carpenter's trade. In 1875 he removed to St. Louis, Missouri, where he successfully followed his chosen vocation for two and a half years, returning to Lamoille, Illinois, at the end of that time. In 1885 he purchased three hundred and forty acres of land in Portland township, Whiteside county, which he cultivated and improved, meeting with a gratifying measure of prosperity in his agricultural interests. On the 18th of March, 1901, he sold the farm and removed to Spring Hill, where he has since been engaged in carpentering. He owns a half section of land in Texas, also two residences in Spring Hill and a first class hotel in Sherrard, Mercer county, Illinois, now conducted by Mrs. Mary Olden, and is widely known as one of the county's prosperous and progressive business men.

In May, 1871, Mr. Meyer was united in marriage to Miss Frances Mary Leby, who was born in Germany in December, 1846, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Leby, who emigrated to America in 1866. They took up their abode

in Chicago and the father was there employed as a laborer until his death in 1878 when sixty years of age, the mother passing away in 1903 when she was sixty-nine years of age. Their family numbered four children, namely: Mrs. Meyer; Mrs. Mary Meyer, of Bureau county; Mrs. Barbara Russell, who resides in Chicago; and Joseph, also living in Chicago. Unto Mr. and Mrs. John C. Meyer have been born seven children: Edward R., who married Rose Thompson and makes his home in Spring Hill, Illinois; Elmer, who wedded Bessie Keiner and lives at Atkinson, Illinois; Annie, who became the wife of Edward Arnett, of Henry county, Illinois; William J., at home; Ernest, who married Bessie Laurence and resides in Portland township; Christiana, who wedded Edward Franks, of Spring Hill, Illinois; and Frank, of Portland township, who married Miss Ida Miller.

In his political views Mr. Meyer was originally a republican, but for the past twenty years has been a staunch advocate of democracy. He has served as school director for twelve years, as road commissioner for a similar period and is at present filling the office of justice of the peace, his decisions being strictly fair and impartial. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic fraternity and also with the Modern Woodmen of America, both of Spring Hill, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church, with which his wife is also identified. He is recognized as one of the influential and honored residents of his community, whose aid can ever be counted upon to further any movement or measure calculated to prove of general good.

JOHN J. BRISTLE.

John J. Bristle is one of the most progressive agriculturists of Whiteside county. He owns about four hundred and sixty-seven acres of rich farming land in Union Grove and Ustick townships, has remodeled the buildings upon his place and has a well furnished modern residence. Everything about his farm bespeaks the supervision of a practical, progressive owner and the success which he has achieved attests the value of the methods he has followed in carrying on his work. He is one of the county's native sons, his birth having occurred near Sterling, September 29, 1858.

His father, George J. Bristle, was born in Germany in 1828 and came to America at the age of twenty-six years, first settling in Ohio, whence he afterward came to Illinois and entered the employ of Dr. Pendleton, of Sterling. In 1843 he made his first purchase of land, becoming owner of ten acres, and when he had saved a sufficient sum from his earnings he bought forty acres in Ustick township, upon which he resided until 1867. He then removed to Clyde township, where he lived for a number of years, after which he invested in property in Morrison and retired to private life, enjoying throughout his remaining days the fruits of his earnest and unremitting toil. There he died April 27, 1904, and his genuine worth as a man and citizen made his death the occasion of deep regret to many friends. He has one brother resid-

ing in the middle west, Simon Bristle, who is now living retired in Boone, Iowa, while another brother, Fred Bristle, died in Sterling. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Dorothy Eslinger. She was born in Germany in 1831 and was married in Ohio, where her parents continued to reside until they were called to their final rest. Unto Mr. and Mrs. George J. Bristle were born four children: John J.; Lewis, who is now living retired in Morrison; Lizzie Landis Bristle, who died in Coleta in 1903; and Mrs. Susan Deeters, of Morrison.

As a farm boy John J. Bristle spent the period of his minority and in assisting his father in carrying on the home farm he laid the foundation for his present success. He has always followed general agricultural pursuits and is today the owner of valuable property of neat and attractive appearance. In his business career he accomplishes what he undertakes and brooks no obstacles that can be overcome by determined, persistent effort.

On the 25th of December, 1882, Mr. Bristle was married to Miss Adda Body. Her father, Isaac Body, was born July 12, 1837, in Iroquois county, Illinois, where his parents, Isaac and Mary (Myers) Body, had located on coming from Pennsylvania. Isaac Body was reared to the occupation of farming, which he chose as a life work, and when twenty-six years of age he started out on his own account. In 1863 he came to Whiteside county and for a year cultivated a rented farm in Ustick township. In the succeeding year he purchased eighty acres of land, which he cultivated with satisfactory and substantial results. He has erected here an excellent class of buildings and the farm is most pleasantly located, while its improvements make it a valuable property. His interests now include two hundred and twenty acres in Ustick township and one hundred and twenty acres in Clyde township, all of which is cultivable.

On the 13th of November, 1860, Isaac Body was married in Carroll county, Illinois, to Miss Cyrena Dyson and they became parents of seven children: Adda, the wife of John Bristle; Charles C., a farmer and stock-raiser living in Trumbull county, South Dakota; Della E., the wife of George Tyson, of Portland, Oregon; Mary L., the wife of Herman Dykema, living on a farm in Ustick township; Samuel M., a resident of Portland, Oregon; Elmer J., who died September 26, 1894; and Etta C., the wife of Albert Mathews, also a resident farmer of Ustick township. The father of this family died August 12, 1887, being killed in a wreck. He was a republican in his political views and both he and his wife were members of the Methodist church. Mrs. Body was born November 15, 1839, in Carroll county, Illinois, and is still living. Her parents were Hezekiah and Ruth (McIndoo) Dyson, natives of Indiana, whence they removed to Carroll county, Illinois, when it was still a frontier district. Their children were James, Charles, William, Cyrena, Hezekiah, Ruth, Cornelius, Margaret A., Dimmis D. and Mary E. Dyson.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bristle located on the old home place in Ustick township, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which Mr. Fish now resides, having rented the property for sixteen years. In 1893 they removed to Morrison, where they resided for nine years and

then purchased the farm which is now their home, becoming owners of this property October 11, 1898. Since that time Mr. Bristle has remodeled all of the buildings and now has a nice, well furnished modern home and also ample shelter for grain and stock. His possessions aggregate four hundred and sixty-seven acres of rich and productive land in Union Grove and Ustick townships and the farm is productive and valuable. He is also extensively engaged in stock-raising, feeding on an average of three carloads of cattle and hogs per year. He grinds his grain with a new gasoline engine, which he has lately installed, and he uses all of the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and the farm. Everything about the place is indicative of his progressive spirit and the wisdom of his judgment concerning business matters is manifest in his success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bristle have been born two daughters and a son. May, who was born November 27, 1883, is now the wife of Paul Wilson, a farmer of Ustick township. Ruth, born August 14, 1885, died November 12, 1893. George E., born December 5, 1889, attended school in Morrison and is now assisting his father in carrying on the home farm, being a young man of good business ability and enterprise.

Mr. Bristle votes with the republican party and is in thorough sympathy with its principles and purposes, but is not a politician in the sense of office seeking. His ambition has been to acquit himself of life's duties honorably before all men, to improve his capabilities and opportunities and to become of use in the world; and it is to this spirit mainly that he owes his advancement.

CHARLES S. FEE.

A well improved farm of one hundred and twenty-two acres, situated on section 17, Prophetstown township, Whiteside county, is the home of Charles S. Fee, who through his own well directed labors and careful business management has attained to the success which he today enjoys, for upon starting out in life on his own account he had no financial assistance, so that he has worked his own way up in the world and may truly be called a self-made man.

Mr. Fee was born in Vinton county, Ohio, April 26, 1865, a son of Austin and Margaret A. (McGee) Fee, both of whom were likewise natives of Vinton county, the former born May 29, 1829. They were married in their native state and in 1865 removed westward to Illinois, settling in Hahn-aman township, Whiteside county, where the father purchased an unimproved tract of land, which he later improved and cultivated, owning at one time a section. Later he removed to Bureau county, this state, where he purchased land and made his home for a time. Disposing of that property, he once more returned to Whiteside county and rented the Nathan Thompson farm in Prophetstown township, whereon he made his home for fourteen years, subsequent to which time he removed to Hume township, where he

purchased a fine farm and spent his remaining days, passing away April 23, 1904, when he had reached the advanced age of seventy-five years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Austin Fee were born thirteen children, of whom ten are living, as follows: Thomas M., a resident of Portland township, this county; Joseph W., who makes his home in Hennessey, Oklahoma; John H. of Prophetstown, Illinois; Mrs. Sarah E. Bryson, who resides in Mason City, Iowa; Frank M., a resident of Montana; Samuel, who lives in Hume township; Charles S., whose name introduces this review; Albert J., also of Hume township; Mrs. May Lane, who lives in Prophetstown township, and Della M., who lives with her brother Samuel in Hume township.

Charles S. Fee was brought to Whiteside county from his native state during his infancy, accompanying the family on their various removals in this state. He was reared to the occupation of farming and acquired a common-school education. He remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty-two years, when he started out in life with a cash capital of but two dollars and a half, but with a strong determination to succeed in the business world. He first secured work as a farm hand, working in this way for a time, or until he had acquired a sum sufficient to enable him to take up other pursuits. He then studied telegraphy and afterward learned the butter-maker's trade, after which he was employed in that line in Wisconsin for a year. Again turning his attention to farming, in 1901 he purchased his present farm property, comprising one hundred and twenty-two acres, which was entirely unimproved when it came into his possession. He at once undertook to develop the property, added many substantial buildings and now has one of the best improved farms in this section of the county. He is here engaged in general farming and stock-raising, feeding all the grain which he raises. He is meeting with very gratifying success in his undertakings and is thus classed among the substantial residents of Whiteside county.

It was on the 27th of February, 1902, that Mr. Fee was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Francis, who was born in Prophetstown township, June 7, 1872, a daughter of Isaac and Anna M. (Thomson) Francis. The father was born in England, December 22, 1847, and came as a boy with his parents to America, the family home being established in New Jersey, where he grew to manhood. He was married in that state to Miss Anna M. Thomson, who was born in Moorestown, October 9, 1848. In 1869 they removed westward to Illinois, settling in Whiteside county. The father purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Prophetstown township, which he continued to cultivate until the time of his death, which occurred March 18, 1899, when he had reached the age of fifty years. He is still survived by his widow, who now makes her home in Prophetstown, at the age of sixty years. Their marriage was blessed with seven children, namely: Mrs. Laura Lancaster, who resides in Prophetstown township; Jennie, now Mrs. Fee; George, a resident of Davenport, Iowa; William and John, who make their home in Erie, Illinois; Edward, who lives in Prophetstown; and Bertha M., who is with her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Fee are members of the Congregational church, in which he served one term as a deacon. Although he votes for the men and measures

of the republican party, he takes a deep and active interest in the work of the prohibition party, laboring earnestly for the cause of temperance. No citizen of Whiteside county is more highly respected and no one more richly deserves success than does Mr. Fee, for it has been won through the most honorable and straightforward methods, and his life should serve as an encouragement to others who start out in life, as he did, without capital, dependent entirely upon their own labors to achieve success.

MARTIN VAN BUREN SMITH.

Martin Van Buren Smith, telegraph operator for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company and agent for the American Express Company at Morrison, has been in the service of both of these companies for a half century. No higher testimonial of his capability and of his trustworthiness could be given. Large corporations of this character do not keep in their employ men who are incompetent or indolent. On the contrary the utmost faithfulness to duty and fidelity to the interests of the corporation must be manifest, and Mr. Smith's long service is a guarantee of his qualifications in those particulars.

He was born in Dupage county, Illinois, April 3, 1841, his parents being Job A. and Susan (Fulton) Smith, the former a native of Dighton, Massachusetts, and the latter of the state of New York. The father was born in 1799 and was of English descent, although the family was established in America during the colonial epoch in our history and was represented by valiant soldiers, who fought for the republic in the Revolutionary war. Job A. Smith was a printer and newspaper man and from 1825 until 1828 was editor of the Elmira (N. Y.) Gazette. He came to Illinois in 1834, settling first at West Chicago in Dupage county, where he entered two sections of land from the government. Upon the farm which he there developed he spent his remaining days and earned a good living for himself and family, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and adding many modern equipments to his place. In his later years he was a member of the Congregational church. His political allegiance was originally given the democratic party, but on the organization of the new republican party he became one of its staunch supporters. For a number of years he was one of the county commissioners of Dupage county, also filled the office of justice of the peace and held other minor positions. No trust reposed in him was ever betrayed in the slightest degree and his service as a public official and his record as a business man commended him to the confidence and good will of all concerned. His wife was a member of the Congregational church and an estimable lady, who died when about fifty years of age.

Martin Van Buren Smith was the youngest son in a family of six children and in the public schools of West Chicago pursued his education. He was reared on a farm to the age of sixteen years, when, thinking to find other pursuits a more congenial life work, he began learning telegraphy in the

office of the Chicago Union Railroad Company at Elburn, Illinois. This company was afterward merged into the Chicago & Northwestern and Mr. Smith remained as agent at Elburn for three years. In the winter of 1863-4 he came to Morrison as agent for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company and the American Express Company and has since retained these positions, being in the service of both of these companies for a half century. He is always courteous to their patrons and obliging in manner, while at the same time he is never neglectful of his duty toward those whom he represents.

In 1869 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Jessie J. Furlong, who was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, in 1847, a daughter of John and Sarah Furlong, who came to Illinois in 1855. Her father was connected with the construction company that built the Chicago & Northwestern road and moved along the line with that road. He settled in Morrison about 1856 and made this his permanent place of residence, having charge of the construction of the Morrison section of the road.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born two sons and a daughter. Will A. M., manager for the Mutual Life Insurance Company for the state of North Dakota and a part of Minnesota, with headquarters at Fargo, is married and has two children. Robert Thomas Fulton is married and lives at Butte, Montana, where he is cashier for the Silver Bow National Bank. Mary H. completes the family. The wife and mother, who was a faithful and consistent member of the Presbyterian church, died January 22, 1897.

Mr. Smith is a member of the Masonic order and has attained high rank in several degrees. He is also connected with the Odd Fellows. His political support is given the democracy and he has represented the third ward on the board of aldermen and as school director. His life has been quietly passed in the faithful performance of his daily duties and he has made a splendid record by his long continued service with the telegraph and the express companies.

GEORGE RIORDON.

George Riordon, engaged in the livery business at Erie, was born in Newton township, Whiteside county, on the 12th of January, 1878, a son of B. M. and Ellen B. Riordon, the former a farmer by occupation. The son was reared under the parental roof, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and as the years passed he learned the value of industry, enterprise and perseverance. His mental training was received through the methods of public instruction, and he completed his course by graduation from the Cottle public school in 1895. He then took up farming and was identified with the work of tilling the soil until 1902, when he abandoned the plow and came to Erie. Here he purchased a livery business, which he has now conducted for six years. He has a well appointed stable, having a good line of carriages and other vehicles and a number of excellent horses. He follows a liberal business policy, makes

earnest effort to please his patrons, and has thus secured a profitable and growing business.

On the 5th of December, 1906, Mr. Riordon was married in Fulton to Miss Daisy R. Peckham, and they are well known in Erie, where they have many friends.

MOSES M. WARNER.

Moses M. Warner, who is now living retired in a pleasant home at 901 Second avenue, Sterling, was born in Hardwick, Massachusetts, March 1, 1824. His parents, Moses M. and Orril (Smith) Warner, were also natives of that state and extended mention is made of them on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of Henry S. Warner, a brother of our subject.

Moses M. Warner was but fourteen years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, in 1838, the father entering land from the government, in Lee county. There our subject remained until he was twenty-six years of age, giving active assistance to his father in the work of the home farm, but in 1850 crossed the plains to California, where he followed gold mining for six years. In 1856, however, he returned to Illinois and began the further cultivation of the old homestead property, which he had purchased from his father. He disposed of this farm in 1864, and the following year removed to Ypsilanti, Michigan, where he remained for a year, on the expiration of which period he came to Sterling, and since that time has considered this city his home, though he spent about fifteen years in the gold and silver mines in Colorado. For a number of years he was engaged in the butter and egg business in Sterling, but since 1893 has practically lived retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his well directed labor and untiring perseverance in former years.

On the 3d of June, 1857, Mr. Warner was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Ann Reynolds, by whom he has three children. Nettie E. became the wife of Frank Johnson, of Morristown, and after his death was married again. She has two children by her first marriage, Earle and Vangie, and now makes her home in Wisconsin. Frankie is a school teacher of Rockford, Illinois, where she has taught for seventeen or eighteen years. Willie lives in Wisconsin, near the home of his sister, Nettie.

In his political views Mr. Warner has always been a republican, with strong prohibition tendencies. He served as highway commissioner in Palmyra township for three or four years, and by the prompt and capable discharge of his duties proved himself worthy of the trust reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, and he is well and favorably known throughout Whiteside county, receiving the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded one who has traveled far on life's journey and whose course has ever been upright and honorable. Seventy years have come and

gone since he arrived in this part of the state, and he has, therefore witnessed its transformation from a wild and windswept prairie into a rich agricultural district, affording all the advantages and conveniences of a modern civilization.

JOSEPH BURNS.

Joseph Burns, a life-long farmer, identified from early youth with agricultural pursuits in Fenton township, where he still makes his home, being now located on section 16, was born in this township, December 28, 1861. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in the days of his boyhood and youth. He remained during his minority with his parents, John F. and Joanna (Shoch) Burns, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Pennsylvania. The father's birth occurred August 6, 1820, and in early manhood he left his native country and sailed for Pennsylvania, remaining a resident of the east until about 1855, when he came west to Whiteside county, Illinois, and took up his abode in Fenton township. Here his remaining days were passed and the work of the farm claimed his time and energies. He was closely associated with the agricultural development of the community and stood for progress and improvement in all lines of farm work. He died upon the old homestead, March 9, 1893, and is still survived by his widow, who is yet a resident of Fenton. He had three hundred acres of land at one time, but sold a portion of this, and at the time of his demise was the owner of a valuable farm property of two hundred acres. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, and he kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He was descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry and the family were Scotch Presbyterians in religious faith. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burns were born eight children: Mary, the deceased wife of Edward Ewers; Joseph, of this review; Martha, who is living with her mother in Fenton; Emma, the wife of George Strunk, of Fenton; Alice, the wife of W. A. Miller, also of Fenton; David, who is living on the old homestead in this township; Minnie, the wife of Harry Snyder, of Fenton township; and Mabel, the wife of J. C. Adams, of Erie.

Joseph Burns, living upon the home farm, pursued his education in the public schools of the neighborhood, and during the summer months aided in the labors of the fields, working diligently and persistently year after year and gaining the valuable experience which well qualified him to carry on business on his own account after he had attained his majority and started out in life for himself. He remained with his parents until his marriage, which was celebrated on the 7th of February, 1883, the lady of his choice being Miss Frances L. Showalter, who was born in Fenton township, this county, July 16, 1874, a daughter of John and Martha (Fuches) Showalter, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Indiana. They came to Whiteside county after their marriage, but all of their children, five in number, were

born here. These are: Delia, now deceased; Mrs. Burns; Julia, the wife of Samuel Given, of this township; Mrs. Ella Michael, of Fenton township; and Mrs. Dora Hogarth.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burns have been born six children: Leroy Melvin, Edna, Charlotte, John, Emmett and Martha. The eldest daughter is now the wife of Paul Mason, of Union Grove.

The family home stands in the midst of an excellent farm of two hundred and twenty-eight acres on section 16, Lyndon township, devoted to the raising of grain and stock. Mr. Burns has been quite an extensive shipper of grain, and in his business interests displays keen discrimination and sagacity, so that his affairs are capably managed and success results. He has been a life-long republican, and is one whose word carries weight in the local councils of his party. His labors in this behalf have been effective and far-reaching, and he has been honored with a number of local offices. He served as supervisor of his township for twelve consecutive years, was chairman of the board for one year, and has been county commissioner for Fenton township for the past six years, being the incumbent in the position at the present time. He has also been assessor and collector of his township for several terms, and has been school trustee since he reached the age of twenty-one years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion, and in all matters of citizenship he is progressive and reliable, standing for progress and improvement in material, intellectual, political and moral lines. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, his membership being with the lodge in Morrison. His entire life has been passed in Whiteside county, and his record is therefore as an open book which all may read. There are no esoteric chapters in his life history, and on the contrary there are recorded many characteristics and deeds that are worthy of emulation.

NICHOLAS HOUGH.

Nicholas Hough, who owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land on section 36, Prophetstown township, was born in Wisconsin on the 19th of June, 1851, a son of Nicholas and Catherine Hough, natives of Germany, who crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1849. After arriving in the new world they lived in Wisconsin for a few years and then removed to Henry county, Illinois, where the father passed away in 1896, his wife surviving him until 1900, when she, too, was called to her final rest. Their family numbered eight children, as follows: Katie, deceased; Caroline, the wife of Henry Reeder, of Bureau county, Illinois; Nicholas, of this review; Phillip, of Henry county, Illinois; Minnie, who became the wife of Fred Brewer and lives in Bureau county; John and Charles, of Prophetstown; and Elizabeth, the wife of Ernest Toppert, of Prophetstown township.

Nicholas Hough acquired a common-school education and remained with his parents until his twenty-third year, when he began working by the month

at farm labor, being thus engaged for two years. For several years afterward he cultivated land which he rented from his father, and in 1892 purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 36, Prophetstown township, which he has since brought under a high state of improvement. He is recognized as one of the alert and enterprising agriculturists of his community and the prosperity which he now enjoys is entirely the result of his own diligence and unfaltering activity.

Mr. Houch was married in the year 1877 and has a family of six children, namely: Ida, the wife of Charles Dixon, of Whiteside county; John, residing in Kewanee, Illinois; Lizzie, who became the wife of William Murphy and is now living in Bureau county, Illinois; Tillie, the wife of Roy Cole, who makes her home with her father; Emma, the wife of Charles Brance, of Henry county; and Martha, at home.

In his political views Mr. Houch is a staunch republican and has served as school director for nine years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart friend. Both he and his wife hold membership with the German Lutheran church and have the warm regard and esteem of all with whom they have come in contact.

GEORGE R. PROCTOR, M. D.

Dr. George R. Proctor, successfully engaged in the practice of medicine at Coleta, was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, May 25, 1869, his parents being David G. and Sarah A. (Hurless) Proctor. The father, a native of Shawswick township, Lawrence county, Indiana, was born July 23, 1840, while the mother's birth occurred in Holmes county, Ohio, on the 11th of April, 1849. David G. Proctor accompanied his parents on their removal to this state in 1855 and is now living a retired life at Coleta, being the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres. His family numbered seven children, as follows: Cephas E., of this county; George R., of this review; Ira R., at home; Minnie, the wife of M. Spang, who lives in Iowa; R. G., of Whiteside county; Elizabeth, who is a trained nurse of Chicago; and one who died in infancy.

Dr. George R. Proctor remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority and after completing his own education taught school for four years. On the expiration of that period he entered the medical department of the State University of Iowa, but completed his course at Rush Medical College, Chicago, being graduated from that institution in 1896. Having thus thoroughly qualified for the practice of his chosen life work, he located at Coleta, where he has since remained as a most able and skilled physician, whose efforts for the alleviation of human suffering and the restoration of health have been attended with a large and well merited degree of success. He is likewise serving as a member of the board of United States Pension Examiners of Whiteside county.

In 1897 Dr. Proctor was united in marriage to Jennie R. Tavenner, a native of Ogle county, whose parents now reside at Polo, Illinois. She was

one of a family of six children and by her marriage has become the mother of two, David and Mildred.

A democrat in his political views, Dr. Proctor is now serving as school treasurer at Coleta, while fraternally he is a Mason, being connected with the blue lodge at Milledgeville and the commandery at Sterling, and also with Coleta Camp, No. 76, M. W. A. He is an extremely busy and successful practitioner, constantly overburdened by demands for his services professionally. Genial in disposition, unobtrusive and unassuming, he is patient under adverse criticism and in his expressions concerning brother practitioners is friendly and indulgent.

JOSEPH HENRY CHAMBERLIN.

Joseph Henry Chamberlin is now engaged in the real-estate and fire insurance business in Chicago but for a long period was identified with the interests of Sterling and Whiteside county. He was born November 24, 1850, upon a farm near Schenectady, New York. His parents were George Anson and Mary Caroline (Brown) Chamberlin. The father was born in Thetford, Vermont, and was a direct descendant of Captain Chamberlin, who fought against the British in colonial wars. Captain Chamberlin came from England to the new world and settled in Massachusetts in 1638. The paternal grandfather was a soldier of the war of 1812 and his son, George A. Chamberlin, often told of his return from the war, when he came back home and hung up his gun over the door. Reared as a farm boy, George A. Chamberlin afterward became a school teacher and later devoted his energies to carpentering and farming. He wedded Mary Caroline Brown, who traces her ancestry back through ten generation to the famous Anneke Jans, who owned the farm lands on which Trinity church and thousands of other valuable buildings in New York city now stand. Suits by the heirs for possession of this property have occupied the courts for many years.

Joseph H. Chamberlain spent a portion of his youth in Sterling, and later upon a farm south of Sterling, near Green river bottoms, which district was the breeding place for ducks, geese, cranes, prairie chickens, quail and woodcock, and thus he early developed a taste for hunting and fishing, which have since been his favorite recreations on his annual vacations. As a boy he was a constant reader and the literary habit formed in youth has continued through his later life. He pursued his education in the schools of Sterling and of Whiteside county, and when ten years of age was a pupil in the Empire school of W. W. Davis, the editor of the historical section of this volume. His preliminary education completed, he attended the Lutheran college at Mendota, Illinois, and soon after took up the profession of teaching. For several years he was principal of the Round Grove school and he followed that calling while preparing for the bar. Entering the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, he was graduated from the law department in 1882. Returning to Sterling, he engaged in the practice of law, and in the



J. H. CHAMBERLIN

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real-estate and insurance business in partnership with his brother George. He thus remained in active connection with professional interests in Whiteside county until 1887, when he removed to Chicago. There he purchased considerable real estate and conducted a real-estate and fire insurance business, becoming agent for leading fire insurance companies and securing a good clientage in both lines.

Mr. Chamberlin was married in 1878, at Round Grove, Illinois, to Kate W. Simonson, whose father and grandfather were among the first settlers of Whiteside county. The children of this marriage are: Mabel M., now the wife of Ralph Wilkinson; James Percy; Jessie Lavinia, the wife of Charles Chapman; and Joseph Frederick.

Mr. Chamberlin votes with the republican party, but has never devoted his time to politics. He joined the Odd Fellows society when twenty-one years of age, became a member of the Masonic fraternity in 1888, and also affiliates with the Royal Arcanum. In his youth he became a member of the Methodist church. In more strictly social lines he is connected with the Fort Dearborn Club and was a member and director of the Ashland Club, its predecessor.

WINFIELD SCOTT ARGRAVES.

Winfield Scott Argraves, a retired farmer and merchant, now living in Sterling, was born in Viola township, Lee county, Illinois, February 29, 1848, and was the eldest in a family of two sons and two daughters, born of the marriage of Samuel and Martha (Miller) Argraves. The paternal grandfather, a native of England and a weaver by trade, died in New York at an advanced age. The maternal grandfather, John Miller, was a native of Canada and a carpenter by trade. He became one of the early settlers of Lee county, Illinois, and spent his last years at the home of a daughter near Lawrence, Kansas. He was twice married and by the first union had four daughters: Betty, Catherine, Sarah and Martha. The last named grew to womanhood in the home of her uncle, Coon Miller, near Toronto, Canada, and gave her hand in marriage to Samuel Argraves. She was born in Canada, while Mr. Argraves was a native of England. He was brought to America by his father, however, when nine years of age and the family home was established in the state of New York. He started out in life on his own account when quite young and followed various occupations. About the time he attained his majority he became a resident of Lee county, Illinois, and it was there that he wedded Martha Miller. Two years later he went to California, where he engaged in teaming for two years, after which he returned to Illinois by way of the isthmus route and New Orleans, proceeding up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Peru. He had already secured a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land and upon this he built a log cabin and paid for his farm from the proceeds of his earnings on the Pacific coast. His remaining days were passed in Lee county and in his agricultural pursuits he pros-

pered, becoming an extensive landowner whose possessions aggregated eleven hundred acres, which he divided largely among his children. He was an energetic business man and in addition to his farming pursuits engaged in loaning money. Toward the close of the war he enlisted in the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry and served until the cessation of hostilities. He then returned to the farm, where he conducted general agricultural pursuits until a few years prior to his death, when he took up his abode in Compton, where he enjoyed a well merited rest until his demise, at the age of seventy-four years. His widow still survives and is now seventy-six years of age. Both were consistent members of the Methodist church and Mr. Argraves was supervisor of his township for one or two terms. The family numbered two sons and two daughters: Winfield Scott; Angelina, the wife of M. M. Avery, of Dixon, Illinois; Samuel O., of Compton, Illinois; and May, the wife of William Hutchinson, of Dixon.

As boy and youth W. S. Argraves remained upon his father's farm, working in the fields as his years and strength increased and acquiring his education in the district schools and in Lutheran College of Mendota, Illinois. After putting aside his text-books, he returned home, continuing with his parents up to the time of his marriage at the age of twenty-one years. He afterward cultivated a part of his father's farm for a few years and subsequently bought a farm of one hundred and six acres, which he improved, residing thereon for several years. He then traded with his father for an eight acre farm and after cultivating it for some time he removed to Compton, where he conducted a general store in partnership with his brother-in-law, M. M. Avery. This relation was maintained for a year, after which Mr. Argraves resumed farming on his eighty acre tract of land. Subsequently he purchased the east half of the old homestead and thus became the owner of two hundred and fifty acres. His landed possessions at the present time, however, comprise two hundred and eighty-five acres. He again became a resident of Compton in 1895, making his home there for six years, on the expiration of which period he came to Sterling and purchased and remodeled what is now a fine home at No. 601 Eighth avenue. It has since been his place of residence and, pleasantly situated, he is here enjoying many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

In February, 1869, Mr. Argraves was married to Miss Ellen Mittan, a daughter of Jephtha and Jane (Beemer) Mitten, who were natives of New York and of Pennsylvania respectively. They became early settlers of Lee county, Illinois, driving overland from the east in a wagon. The father died when about seventy-three years of age, while his wife survived to the advanced age of eighty-nine years. They were the parents of eight children, all born and reared in Lee county. Six of the number are now living, as follows: Harrison; Lydia, the wife of Andrew Rosecrans; Delia, the wife of Edmund Holton; Celestia, the deceased wife of Dennis Holton; Cassius; Ellen, now Mrs. Argraves; Ida, the wife of Henry Abel; and Alice, the wife of George Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Argraves have become the parents of seven children: Lawrence, who is engaged in farming, wedded Delia Beemer, by whom he has

four daughters and three sons, Erdena, Elliott, Hobart, Ellen, Scott, Florence and Clara. Linn, who is also engaged in farming, wedded May McKergin, by whom he has a daughter, Vera. Eugene was a soldier of the Spanish-American war, after which he engaged in teaching school and was in the real-estate business in Sterling and later in the Indian territory. He is now a bookkeeper in the auditing department on the canal zone. He wedded Miss Elizabeth Majors. Eber is the secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association at Grand Forks, North Dakota. Arrow is a civil engineer in Chicago. Winfield Scott, Jr., who pursued a course in Sterling Business College, is now a resident of this city. He wedded Elsie Forrester, who was likewise educated in the Sterling Business College. John Wesley is a plumber by trade and lives at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Argraves are members of the United Brethren church and he gives his political support to the republican party. For a number of years he served as school director but has never sought nor desired office. He owes his success to the enterprise and diligence which he displayed in business, to his careful management and unfaltering determination. As a merchant and as an agriculturist he was worthy at all times of the prosperity that came to him, for his business methods were reliable and he was never known to take advantage of the necessities of others in a trade transaction. He is now attractively situated in one of the good homes of Sterling, with leisure to enjoy the fruits of his former toil and the pleasant things which life has to offer.

JOHN G. PLUMLEY.

John G. Plumley, a farmer residing on section 29, Hume township, was born in Barre, Massachusetts, July 29, 1849. His father, John H. Plumley, was a native of Concord, Vermont, born in 1821, and his death occurred on the 3d of July, 1882. The mother, who in her maidenhood was Caroline Parks, was born in Waterford, Vermont, in 1835, and died January 22, 1897. They were married in 1850 and six years later came to Whiteside county, settling first in Prophetstown, where John H. Plumley purchased a farm on section 29, Hume township. At the time he made the investment there were no fences or house in sight of his land. He secured his first dwelling by trading a silver watch for it to Charles McCarter and by enlarging the little dwelling which he had thus received he provided a comfortable pioneer home and placing it upon the ridge, it served as a landmark for those going through the township, the Plumley being for many years considered a guide post to those who were traveling to or through this district. The father was active in community affairs during pioneer days and served as supervisor and in other offices in the township. He withheld his cooperation from no movement that tended to promote the upbuilding and development of the county and his worth and work made him one of its most respected citizens. Both he and his wife continued to reside upon the old homestead until they were

called to their final rest. Unto them were born two sons, the younger, Charles C. Plumley, being now a resident of Peoria, Illinois.

John G. Plumley was only seven years of age when brought by his parents to Whiteside county and here he was reared amid the conditions and environments of pioneer life. He shared with the family in the hardships and privations which always have to be met in frontier districts and he also bore his full share in the work of general improvement, aiding his father in the arduous task of breaking the sod and cultivating new land. Having arrived at years of maturity, he was married February 20, 1879, to Miss Mary A. Lyon, who was born in Mount Pleasant township, December 24, 1855, a daughter of Barton and Sarah N. (Vaughan) Lyon. The father was born July 13, 1816, in Craftsbury, Orleans county, Vermont, and died July 13, 1889. His wife, whose birth occurred March 23, 1821, survived him for several years and passed away October 23, 1895. She was a native of Stockbridge, Madison county, New York. It was in the year 1849 that they made their way westward to Whiteside county, settling two miles south of Morrison, where Mr. Lyon built the first house in that part of the county. It was a substantial structure, considered a mansion in those days, and is still standing, a mute witness of the many changes and events that have here occurred, whereby the county has been transformed from a wild, unimproved district into one of rich fertility. Mr. Lyon was quite successful in his farming operations, the fields being made to produce rich crops whereby he added materially to his income year by year. He continued to reside upon the old homestead until his demise. Unto him and his wife were born nine children, of whom four are living: Marcus, of Tampico, Illinois; Dwight, who is living at White Rock, Oklahoma; Mrs. Cora Lukins; and Mary A., now the wife of our subject.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Plumley has been blessed with four children: Sadie, the wife of Alexander Bain, a resident farmer of Hume township, by whom she has one child, Darlene; John, Fannie and Charles, all yet at home.

Mr. Plumley when twenty-six years of age began farming on his own account and has always been especially interested in stock-raising, carrying on an extensive business in the purchase, sale and shipment of stock, a business that has reached into the hundreds of thousands of dollars per year. As his financial resources have increased he has added to his property from time to time until he now owns four hundred acres of valuable land in Whiteside county, together with one hundred and sixty acres in Holt county, Nebraska, and three hundred and twenty acres in Como. With the assistance of his son John he is carrying on the home farm of four hundred acres, constituting one of the valuable properties of this part of the state. The farm is equipped with modern conveniences and accessories and everything about the place indicates the care and supervision of a practical and progressive owner who keeps up with the times in every particular concerning agricultural advancement. As stated he is a successful stock-raiser and shipper and possesses excellent judgment in making his purchases of stock so that he never loses upon an investment but on the contrary receives a good profit therefrom. In his business dealings, too, he has been found thoroughly reliable as well as enterprising and his success is therefore well merited.

Mr. Plumley has always taken a deep and commendable interest in politics and he is a stalwart worker in behalf of the republican party, believing strongly in its principles yet never seeking nor desiring office. In fact when his fellow townsmen have solicited him to become a candidate he has steadily refused, feeling that his business interests claim his undivided time and attention. He is a charter member of Sterling Camp, M. W. A., and also of the Mystic Workers of the World. He likewise belongs to the Fraternal Reserve and is connected through membership relations with the Yeomen of America. His brethren of these fraternities entertain for him warm regard, respecting him as a man of genuine worth as well as business capability and throughout the county he has gained many warm friends. Here he has lived for more than a half century and his life history is therefore as an open book to his fellow townsmen.

THOMAS JEFFERSON BURCH.

Thomas Jefferson Burch, who is engaged in the grain trade at Morrison with his brother, L. W. Burch, under the firm style of Burch Brothers, has displayed throughout his business career a spirit of enterprise and determination that has brought him desirable success and argues well for future advancement in the business world. He represents one of the oldest and most honored pioneer families of the county.

His father, Harrison D. Burch, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, July 22, 1833, a son of Ira and Joanna M. (Bacon) Burch, natives of New York and Vermont respectively. After their marriage they located in the Empire state and a few years later went to Indiana, whence in 1837 they removed to Illinois. They are mentioned in the early records of the county as being one of four families who settled that year in Garden Plain township. Their family numbered four children: Harrison D., Thomas J., Eliza S. and Ira S.

Harrison D. Burch was but four years of age when brought by his parents to Illinois. He was reared upon the home farm amid the wild scenes and environments of frontier life at a time when the countryside was largely unsettled, when wild game was to be had in abundance and when there was little evidence that the seeds of civilization had been planted here. As opportunity offered he attended the district schools and when not busy with his text-books worked at farm labor. He afterward engaged in farming on his own account and through the careful management of his business affairs and through judicious investment he became the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of valuable land in Union Grove. This, however, he has since sold. At one time he lived for several years across the line in Garden Plain township. He was an enterprising agriculturist and business man and the careful control of his farming interests brought to him the capital that enabled him to retire from active life in 1899 and establish his home in Morrison, where he has since enjoyed a well earned rest, the fruits of his former toil supplying

him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. He has been a stalwart republican since the formation of the party, served as supervisor of Union Grove township for two terms and filled other local offices.

In early manhood Harrison D. Burch was married to Miss Elizabeth Wookey, who was born in England in 1835 and is now living at the age of seventy-two years. Her parents were George and Maria (Bryant) Wookey, who came to the United States in 1849 and settled in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where the death of the father occurred. The mother afterward came to this state. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Burch had a family of thirteen children, of whom nine are yet living. Thomas J. is a stock-dealer of Morrison and a partner of his father and brother, L. W., who is the next in order of birth. Mary is the wife of Horace Hinds, of Kansas. Ella became the wife of Walter King, a civil engineer of Brooklyn, New York. George W. is a grain buyer of Galt. Elizabeth is the wife of Harry W. Dysart, a grain buyer of Franklin Grove, Illinois. Herbert H. is living on a farm in Union Grove. Nettie became the wife of James Spears, a merchant of Goff, Kansas. Frederick is a barber in Morrison.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Thomas J. Burch in his boyhood and youth. He was born in Garden Plain township, Whiteside county, May 12, 1858, and in the spring of 1868 the family removed to Union Grove, where he lived upon the home farm with his father until his marriage. He attended the country schools, acquiring a good English education that well fitted him for life's practical and responsible duties. When not busy with his text-books he assisted in the work of the home farm and early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. On the 18th of March, 1880, he made preparation for having a home of his own, for that was the date on which he wedded Miss Rebecca Stinton, a daughter of Elijah Stinton, of Union Grove. Unto them has been born one son, W. H. Burch, who is now attending school at Champaign, Illinois.

For five or six years after his marriage Mr. Burch resided upon one of his father's farms and actively carried on its cultivation. He later rented another farm and subsequently purchased a tract of land adjoining that property. For twelve years he continued to improve and develop the place and became known as one of the enterprising, energetic and successful agriculturists of the community. He then sold out in 1899 and removed to Morrison, where he purchased a mill and elevator, which he operated for two years. On the expiration of that period he disposed of the business and joined his father in the live-stock business. Later he entered the grain trade in connection with his brother, L. W. Burch, and they are still associated in this line of business activity. They handle a large amount of grain annually, their business furnishing an excellent market for the grain raisers of the county, while their sales bring to them a gratifying annual income.

While an active, energetic and enterprising business man, Mr. Burch has yet found time to promote public interests by his cooperation in many movements for the general good. For eighteen years he has served as school trustee and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion. He was

also commissioner of highways in Union Grove. **His entire life has been passed in Whiteside county and he has fully sustained the high reputation which has always been borne by the family in matters of business and citizenship.** He has worked earnestly and persistently to achieve success and whatever prosperity has come to him is the direct reward of his own labors.

FRANK E. LANCASTER.

Frank E. Lancaster, the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of excellent farming land on sections 20 and 29, Prophetstown township, was born in this township on the 4th of December, 1867, a son of Charles and Sarah (Hippy) Lancaster. The father was a native of England, born in 1827, and thinking to enjoy better business opportunities in the new world he resolved to take advantage of the chances here offered and in 1851 crossed the Atlantic to New York. Later he located in Whiteside county, arriving in the year 1856. Not having the capital with which to purchase a farm, he rented land for about ten years and during that period his dilligence and careful expenditure brought him sufficient funds to justify his investment in a farm on section 24, Lyndon township. To this he added as opportunity offered until at the time of his death he owned a valuable property of two hundred and eighty-six acres. Long since the time had passed when he was able to secure only the necessities of life, for as year by year went by his careful conduct of his business interests brought him a good return, enabling him to secure the comforts and some of the luxuries which go to make life worth living. He passed away December 18, 1906, and is still survived by his widow, who now resides in Prophetstown township. This worthy couple were the parents of four sons and two daughters, namely: Mary, the wife of M. S. Hill, of Prophetstown township; Charles, who makes his home in Prophetstown; Sarah, the wife of Millard Hill, also of Prophetstown; W. M., also of this city; Henry C., who carries on farming in Prophetstown township, and Frank E., of this review.

Frank E. Lancaster acquired a common-school education and remained under the parental roof until he had attained the age of twenty-one years. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres on sections 20 and 29, Prophetstown township, where he has since resided. As the years have gone by he has brought his land under a high state of cultivation, the fields annually returning rich harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon them.

On the 11th of March, 1891, Mr. Lancaster was united in marriage to Miss Laura Frances, who was born in 1870, a daughter of Isaac and Anna (Thompson) Frances, the former a native of England and the latter of New Jersey. They came to Whiteside county in 1869, and the father passed away in 1899 but Mrs. Frances still survives, making her home in Prophetstown. She had a family of seven children, namely: Mrs. Lancaster; Jennie, the wife of Charles Fee, of Prophetstown township; George, of Davenport, Iowa; William and John, who reside in Erie, Illinois; Edward, who lives in Prophets-

town; and Bertha, who is with her mother. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster have been born six children, namely: Elmer R.; Curtis H.; Clifford F.; Anna F.; Edward H., deceased; and Glen L.

In his political views Mr. Lancaster is a republican and has served as school director for four years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart friend. Both he and his wife are members of the Congregational church and are widely and favorably known throughout Whiteside county, having spent their entire lives within its confines. In his agricultural interests he has ever followed progressive and enterprising methods and is recognized as a prosperous and public-spirited citizen of the community.

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